

# La Provincia

MARTEDÌ 2 SETTEMBRE 2014 • EURO 1,30

ANNO 123. NUMERO 241 • [www.laprovinciadicono.it](http://www.laprovinciadicono.it)

«Giuridicati»

## «Ufo sopra Appiano» Ma erano mongolfiere

Qualcuno le ha addirittura scambiate per Ufo, oggetti volanti non identificati. Ma erano solo mongolfiere e non venivano da Marte ma dalla Svizzera. Tre mongolfiere, sabato mattina, sono state notate nei cieli di Bulgrograsso e dell'Appianese. Sorvolavano la zona, con il loro incendere lento e lieve. È già capitato di vedere qualche mongolfiera di tanto in tanto com-

parire in cielo, spesso con "targa" elvetica, ma di norma si era trattato di voli in solitaria. Questa volta, invece, una spettacolare formazione a tre, a causa di una gara in corso. Una coppia di coniugi di Lurate Caccivio, sabato sera, ha segnalato ai vigili del fuoco di Appiano Gentile di aver visto una mongolfiera in fiamme, ma l'allarme era infondato.

CLERICI A PAGINA 33



# Il "giallo" mongolfiere L'allarme e le ricerche ma era solo una gara

Fanno ancora discutere gli "oggetti volanti" che sono stati avvistati sabato scorso ad Appiano. Nessun incidente, ecco che cosa era accaduto

**Appiano Gentile**  
**MANTOVA**

"Invasione" di mongolfiere. Nel cielo sopra Socco, nel Comune di Fiumo Montesco, sabato mattina volavano tre mongolfiere con "targa" svizzera. All'improvviso sono comparse silenziosamente - provenivano da Sud - e altrettanto tacitamente hanno continuato il loro volo finché sono scomparse dietro gli alberi.

## Lo scudo crociato nel cielo

Procedevano in gruppo, a distanza ravvicinata: una era striscia bianca e rosse, un'altra bluette con inserti verdi e una terza multicolore, tutte e tre con l'inconfondibile simbolo scudo crociato a tradire la nazionalità degli occupanti. L'avvistamento ha attratto l'attenzione di residenti e passanti che hanno seguito con il naso all'insù

il viaggio dei tre palloni aerostatici, immortalandolo anche con foto. Non è stato l'unico avvistamento. Altre tre mongolfiere, sabato mattina, sono state notate nei cieli di Bulgarograsso e dell'Appianese. Sorvolavano la zona, con il loro incedere lento e lieve.

È già capitato di vedere qualche mongolfiera di tanto in tanto comparire in cielo, spesso con "targa" elvetica, ma di norma si era trattato di voli isolitari. A maggio dello scorso anno, una mongolfiera a scacchi bianchi e neri, con bandiera Svizzera e due persone a bordo, era perfino atterrata a Olgiate in zona stazione, avendo perso la rotta. Stavolta, invece, si sono mosse in gruppo e, a quanto pare, non per una coincidenza casuale. Il proliferare di palloni aerostatici sui cieli della zona è da collegarsi con tutta probabilità a una gara di mongolfiere, partita dalla Francia

con arrivo a Mantova. Presenze che, oltre a destare una certa curiosità, hanno fatto scattare anche un singolare allarme. Una coppia di coniugi di Lurate Caccivio, sabato sera, ha segnalato ai vigili del fuoco di Appiano Gentile di aver visto una mongolfiera in fiamme e il cestello precipitare al suolo in direzione di Appiano Gentile.

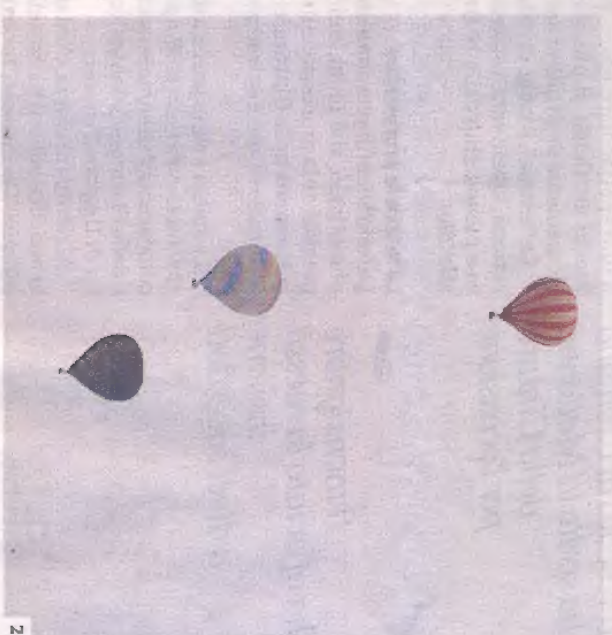
## Una ricerca vana

Alla ricerca del presunto pallone aerostatico precipitato e degli eventuali feriti, si è messa in moto un'imponente macchina dei soccorsi, anche con l'impiego dell'elicottero dei vigili del fuoco. Mobilitati tre automezzi dei pompieri di Appiano Gentile con una dozzina di uomini, un mezzo boschivo e un ufficio mobile dei colleghi di Como, volontari della protezione civile di Olgiate Comasco e carabinieri. Nessuna traccia. ■



## Il mistero in volo

1. Una mongolfiera parzialmente coperta dagli alberi: riconoscibile lo scudo crociato simbolo della confederazione svizzera, ben visibili le strisce biancorosse
2. I tre "oggetti volanti" segnalati da più parti nell'Olgiatese nella giornata di sabato: niente UFO, soltanto tre mongolfiere che stavano partecipando a una sorta di gara dalla Francia con arrivo a Mantova





# Dumping of mud within Reef a 'ridiculous' idea, says Greens leader

## Dredge plan slammed



**CHRISTINE MILNE** Leader  
Christine Milne says a completely unnecessary and expensive plan to dump 1.4 million cubic metres of dredge spoil from Trinity Harbour is the dumbest idea ever conceived for the Great Barrier Reef.



UNITED STATES: Professor Sandra Harding, vice-chancellor of JCU, Bruce Horner, the Australian representative for French jeweller and Les Dore, who designed the museum, Professor Wilson Lawrence of JCU and Christine Milne in Cairns yesterday.

The plan to dump 1.4 million cubic metres of dredge spoil from Trinity Harbour is the dumbest idea ever conceived for the Great Barrier Reef, says Greens leader Christine Milne. The plan, which would cost \$1.4 billion, is to dump the spoil in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Milne says the plan is "completely unnecessary and expensive" and that the dredge spoil should be used for other purposes. She also says that the plan is "a complete waste of money" and that the dredge spoil should be used for other purposes.

# Election analyst predicts Newman will lose seat

**QUEENSLAND** Premier Campbell Newman could lose his seat in the next state election, according to an election analyst. The analyst, who has been predicting Newman's defeat for some time, says that Newman's government is "in a very weak position" and that he is "unlikely to win the seat". The analyst also says that Newman's government is "in a very weak position" and that he is "unlikely to win the seat".

# Residents photograph visiting 'alien spacecraft'

## Is ET trying to phone home from Cardwell?



**HIGHLY AMUSED** is it a UFO? Residents of Cardwell, Queensland, have been photographing a small, dark, triangular object in the sky. The object, which is said to be a "UFO", has been seen by several residents and has been photographed by others. The residents of Cardwell are saying that the object is a "UFO" and that it is "trying to phone home from Cardwell".

# Renew moves to increase beds for elderly

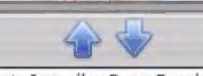
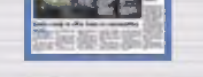
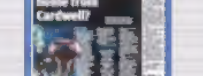
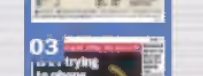
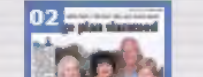
**PROPOSAL** The Council also wanted to increase the number of beds in the Cairns City Council's elderly care facilities. The proposal is to increase the number of beds from 100 to 150. The Council is saying that the proposal is "a necessary step" to ensure that there are enough beds for elderly people. The Council is also saying that the proposal is "a necessary step" to ensure that there are enough beds for elderly people.

Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura

FOR ELDERLY

NEWS

Pagine







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HEAVENS ABOVE: Is it a UFO? Mystery lights have been spotted in the night sky above Cardwell, and (below left) the alien visitor E.T.

## Renew moves increases beds for elderly

FROM PAGE 1

Mr Ertisch also said the Glenmead Village aged care facility, which was reduced by a year from 194 beds to 120, will soon reopen the lost facilities.

"We are working with the council and I'm hoping the plan will materialise in the next couple of months," he said.

"I've been working on it for some time ... and there are a number of options at the moment. The option for a new model of care may well work."

A briefing paper released by The Cairns Post last week stated that the region had 212 beds in the aged care sector, but only 120 were available to aged-care residents after 120 residential aged care beds allocated to the state government's health system.

VISIONE DI TUTTI GLI IMMAGINI IN MINIATURA

FOR ELDERLY

NEWS

02



03



04



05



06



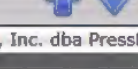
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10





# Cairns well!



**DANIEL BATEMAN**

IS this proof that E.T. really is trying to phone home? Cardwell residents believe they have photographic evidence of **UFO** floating in the night sky above the town on the weekend.

The mystery lights, however, have taken the bizarre shape of an illuminated phone receiver.

Molly Dunn and her husband Archie were sitting in the lounge room of their Jamieson St home on Saturday watching television when they noticed a bright light shining out at sea through one of their windows about 8.30pm.

"It was an orangy-red glow," Mrs Dunn said.

"It was big and it was fairly low ... and it was coming this way.

"I said, 'Oh, my God - look at that!'"

The couple rushed outside for a better

light) was still coming. It wasn't very fast and, as it was coming closer it was getting a little bit higher," Mrs Dunn said.

"We could see that it was a funny shape ... and it came just over next door's roof and it stopped.

"You could see that it was

**You could see that it was a funny shape, like a telephone, or like a handle - and it stopped**

**MOLLY DUNN**  
CARDWELL RESIDENT

a funny shape, like a telephone, or like a handle - and it stopped.

"Then it went straight up, and as it went straight

lanterns, or any other man-made object.

"I know what it isn't - it isn't space shrapnel, because it doesn't go in a straight course like that, and then up in the sky," she said.

"It's not an air balloon or weather balloon - I've heard all that crap before.

"I've been on a **UFO** thing (website) this morning to look at all shapes and sizes, and seen saucer-shaped and banana-shaped, but nothing like this.

"Who's to say this isn't the real deal?"

The coastal community, about 200km south of Cairns, hosted an Inaugural **UFO** festival in May as part of the town's 150th anniversary celebrations.

Event organiser Theo Ormonde said there were plenty of unexplained phenomena in Cardwell and its surrounds.

"I've been looking back at all of the old stories that people have handed down through their families, and there seems to be a trend of lights in the sky here."

HEAVENS ABOVE: Is it a **UFO**? Mystery lights have been spotted in the night sky above Cardwell, and (below left) the alien visitor E.T. from the 1982 movie by Steven Spielberg.

available to a... after 120 residential beds allocated to the... the Commonwealth... ment of Health were... coming - and 92 be... removed.

Mr Entsch said he... working to identify these shortfalls were.

"We've only been find 54 (of the 92) beds mead," he said.

"I've asked the dep... to go back and be spe... where they are ... becau... beds could come onli... quicker than January."

But the briefing pa... identified a lack of ho... mentally and physica... abled people, with m... maining in CHHS fac...

"While that is a sta... I'm more than happy... with them on this," Mr... said.

"I don't differenti... tween state and feder... with things like this.

"Lets not put them... side."

**Cairns & popula choice**

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**NEWS**

**02** [... plan shared](#)

**03** [... trying to phone home from ...](#)

**04** [... Battle on ...](#)



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bizarre shape of an illuminated phone receiver. Molly Dunn and her husband Archie were sitting in the lounge room of their Jamieson St home on Saturday watching television when they noticed a bright light shining out at sea through one of their windows about 8.30pm. "It was an orangey-reddy glow," Mrs Dunn said. "It was big and it was fairly low ... and it was coming this way."

## You could see that it was a funny shape, like a telephone, or like a handle - and it stopped

MOLLY DUNN  
CARDWELL RESIDENT

"I said, 'Oh, my God - look at that!'" The couple rushed outside for a better view, armed with a camera. "It (the funny shape, like a telephone, or like a handle - and it stopped. "Then it went straight up, and as it went straight up after a little while it went 'whoosh' and it disappeared." Mrs Dunn said she and her husband had no idea what the lights were, but completely ruled out a weather balloon or Chinese

and seen saucer-shaped and banana-shaped, but nothing like this. "Who's to say this isn't the real deal?" The coastal community, about 200km south of Cairns, hosted an inaugural UFO festival in May as part of the town's 150th anniversary celebrations. Event organiser Thea Ormonde said there were plenty of unexplained phenomena in Cardwell and its surrounds. "I've been looking back at all of the old stories that people have handed down through their families, and there seems to be a trend of lights in the sky here," she said. "I'm not really sure why that is. "I'm trying to compile all of these past experiences for next year's UFO festival, and this latest experience is hot off the press."

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## Cairns popular choice

MORE people have m  
Cairns in the past dec  
the city leaving Towns  
other tropical cities in  
Figures released at  
Chamber of Commerce  
yesterday by Bill Cum  
Cummings Economic  
the city steaming ahead  
Between 2002 and  
Cairns' residential pop  
grew by 32 per cent, re  
four percentage point  
than Townsville and a  
mining boom town  
which posted a 30 per c  
Overall in the per  
extra 46,000 people c

# Banks ready to offer loans to communities

MICHAEL MADIGAN

BANKS are examining ways of offering mortgages to

could be operable by early next year if communities support them.

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when the IBA, which provides financial help to indigenous people seeking business oppor- count many factors. "They include prudent lending standards, the security for loans (land and property) and the

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FOR ELDERLY

NEWS

02

03

04





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"I'm trying to compile all of these past experiences for next year's UFO festival, and this latest experience is hot off the press."

# Banks ready to offer loans to communities

**MICHAEL MADIGAN**

BANKS are examining ways of offering mortgages to Queensland indigenous people who want to buy their own home.

With legislation allowing home ownership in remote communities set for debate in State Parliament in September, new laws on freehold title

could be operable by early next year if communities support them.

While there are concerns banks may not be prepared to write mortgages in communities where many do not own any assets, the National Australia Bank is already examining the issue.

"We believe low levels of home ownership remain a key

driver for indigenous disadvantage," a NAB spokeswoman said yesterday.

"We are working with Indigenous Business Australia to offer indigenous clients split home loans and are exploring other ways in which we can deliver specialist products and services to indigenous communities around Australia."

A split home loan occurs

when the IBA, which provides financial help to indigenous people seeking business opportunities, does not have the capital to cover the loan required, and the bank covers the shortfall.

Australian Bankers Association CEO Steven Munchenberg yesterday said lending decisions in indigenous communities would take into account

many factors. "They include prudent lending standards, the security for loans (land and property) and the borrower's individual circumstances," he said.

Queensland Indigenous Affairs Minister Glen Elmes has stressed no Queensland indigenous community would be forced to adopt private ownership models.

## Cairns popular choice

MORE people have moved to Cairns in the past decade than in any other tropical cities in Australia.

Figures released at a press conference yesterday by Bill Cumming, Cairns Regional Council's Economic Development Officer, showed the city's population had grown by 32 per cent, more than any other city in the state.

Between 2002 and 2011, Cairns' residential population grew by 32 per cent, more than any other city in the state.

Overall in the period, an extra 46,000 people moved to the Far North and enjoyed the tropical lifestyle, an increase of 21 per cent.

The city is proving a popular choice with Chinese tourists, with 102,000 more Chinese tourists landing in Cairns in 2011.

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**NEWS**

**02** [... plan shared](#)

**03** [... trying to phone home from Cardwell?](#)

**04** [Battle on son's ship upheld](#)



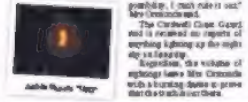
4

NEWS

# Pics of UFO to light up festival

**“Just as it was about to land it came to a dead stop.”**

TOWNVILLE has been the focus of a major UFO sighting in the coastal town of Australia. The sighting was reported by a local resident who was driving through the town at the time. The sighting was reported to the police and the sighting was investigated by the police. The sighting was reported to the police and the sighting was investigated by the police. The sighting was reported to the police and the sighting was investigated by the police.



| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | YESTERDAY |
|----------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 8.9C     | 7.3C   | 9C     | 9.9C      |



## WINTRY BLAST NOT THE LAST

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BBC BY TWC. © High Republic. 4. rep up on The Strand. Photo: PETER. HARRIS

5

NEWS

# RACHEL IN BABY 'BLACKMAIL' BID

## Confidant tells inquest of missing teen's plan to fake pregnancy



**RACHEL IN BABY 'BLACKMAIL' BID**

Confidant tells inquest of missing teen's plan to fake pregnancy. The article discusses the case of a missing teenager and the alleged blackmail attempt involving a fake pregnancy.

## Newman changes strategy

**Newman changes strategy**

The article discusses a change in strategy by Newman, likely in the context of a legal or political case.

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Pagine

4 of 10 to light up festival

4% RA

5 RACHEL IN BABY 'BLACKMAIL' BID

6 RACHEL IN BABY 'BLACKMAIL' BID





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Australia Townsville Bulletin Calendario 23 lug 2014 Indice 4 - 5 NEWS

Residents Archie and Molly Dunn are the latest to report strange activity in the coastal town's skyline after seeing a red orb on Saturday night.

"We were watching telly with the lights on and all of a sudden there was a red glow through the window," Archie told the *Bulletin* yesterday.

"It was coming from the east, out at sea.

"It was rising slightly and weaving a little bit.

"Just as it was about to land it came to a dead stop.

"All of a sudden it accelerated upwards and disappeared straight up in the sky. It was quite a sight - I tell you."

Molly managed to snap off a few photos of the **UFO**.

Now the Duns' story, and the countless others told over

# ARCHIE DUNN

the years, will be released at the 2015 Cardwell **UFO** Festival, all to prove Cardwell is the **UFO** capital of Australia.

"That's what we believe," festival co-ordinator Thea Ormonde, a third-generation Cardwell resident, said.

"Over time there have been so many unrecorded sightings.

"Anyone who has photos, videos or even experiences they are willing to talk about, we will start up some files.

"We will archive them and see if there is any trend."

There is a school of thought that Archie and Molly's orb was a flying device used by the Defence as part of Exercise Hamel, which is happening across North Queensland.

"I think that could be a possibility, I can't rule it out," Mrs Ormonde said.

The Cardwell Coast Guard said it received no reports of anything lighting up the night sky on Saturday.

Regardless, the volume of sightings leave Mrs Ormonde with a burning desire to prove that the truth is out there.



RUG-UP TIME: Calleigh Reynolds, 4, rugs up on The Strand

PICTURE: FIONA HARDING

"Temperatures have been below average for the past three days," he said.

"It's a legacy of some very dry air that was pushed across our region in the wake of a southwesterly change that came across on Friday morning."

Mr Torrisi said this July was colder than last year, but Townsville had experienced similar cold snaps in the past.

He said the lowest July minimum of record was when the mercury plummeted to 3.5C in 1984.

"Some years are colder than others and it's not surprising or unprecedented to see temperatures of the order we've seen on the weekend," he said.

"Winter runs for another five weeks, so potentially we could see more cold snaps."

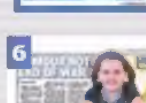
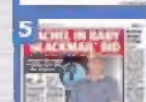
Mr Torrisi said there would be a reprieve from the wintry blast later this week, however, with temperatures expected to gradually warm up in coming days.



Archie Dunn's "UFO"

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Pagine



GROW YOUR SAVINGS?



JOSH ALSTON

j.alston@news.com.au

FORGET *The X-Files*, the *C-Files* are being put together to affirm Cardwell as the **UFO** capital of Australia.

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consecutive days. Yesterday's low of 9.9C followed minimums of only 8.9C, 7.3C and 9C on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, respectively.

Forecaster Mario Torrisi said Townsville's average July minimum was almost 1C colder than the long-term average.

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Pagine





# Pics of UFO to light up festival

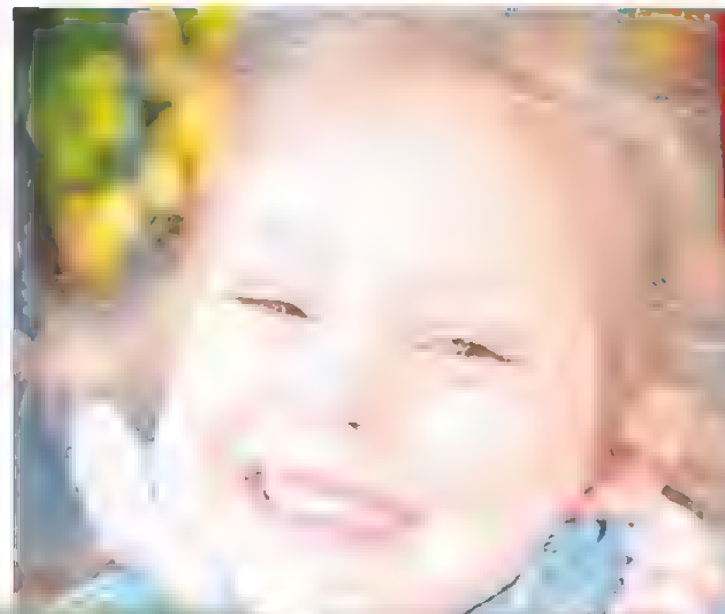
JOSH ALSTON

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SATURDAY 8.9C SUNDAY 7.3C MONDAY 9C YESTERDAY 9.9C



WINTRY BLAST NOT THE LAST

RACHEL AFFLICK

TOWNSVILLE has been gripped by its longest cold snap of the year, with temperatures plummeting into single figures for four consecutive days.

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Pagine





## Caravāna Sun - Gypsy-Ska aus Australien im UFO

Diesen Sommer kehren die australischen Gypsy-Ska-Rocker „Caravāna Sun“ bereits zum dritten Mal zurück nach Europa und machen im Rahmen ihrer „Fiesta-Tour“ einen Zwischenstopp in der UFO-Arena.



Caravāna Sun; Foto: Prickly Pears Press - Foto: STOL

Studio sul colesterolo

Super ferie in montagna

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Hotel Kristall 3S nelle Dolomiti Qualità del Sudtirol da 44 Euro MP

Dirndlkleid Trend 2014

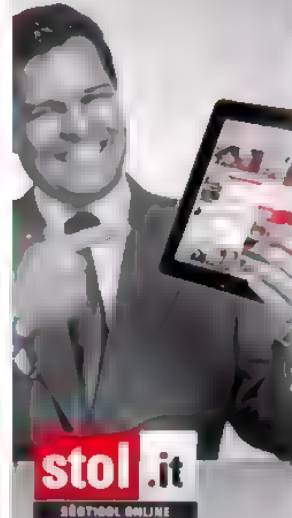
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- 1 "zebra": Als Pakistaner zu einem Frei.Wild-Konzert
- 2 "Fühlte mich immer weniger als Fremder"

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## Caravāna Sun - Gypsy-Ska aus Australien im UFO

Diesen Sommer kehren die australischen Gypsy-Ska-Rocker „Caravāna Sun“ bereits zum dritten Mal zurück nach Europa und machen im Rahmen ihrer „Fiesta-Tour“ einen Zwischenstopp in der UFO-Arena.



Caravāna Sun; Foto: Prickly Pears Press - Foto: STOL

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Am Mittwoch, 16. Juli heizen „Caravāna Sun“ mit ihren sommerlichen Rhythmen die UFO-Arena in Bruneck ein.

Ab 20.30 Uhr gibt die vierköpfige Band, die für ihre pure Energie und ihre gefühlsbetonten Live-Auftritte bekannt ist, ihr neues Album „Aya“ zum Besten.

Gemastert von Grammy-Gewinner William Bowen (Gotye) hat die Band in ihrer Heimat bereits eine große Tour hinter sich und damit große Erfolge erzielt.

Um die Veröffentlichung von „Aya“ auch in Europa zu feiern, tourt die Band

## Super ferie in montagna

📌 [hote.-kristall.info](#)

Hotel Kristall 3S nelle Dolomiti Qualità del Sudtirolo da 44 Euro MP

## Dirndlkleid Trend 2014

## Miniascensore per la casa

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Caravãna Sun; Foto: Prickly Pears Press - Foto: STOL

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Um die Veröffentlichung von „Aya“ auch in Europa zu feiern, tourt die Band weiter und wird in Bruneck im Rahmen des Projekts „UFO Summer“ das Publikum zum Glühen bringen

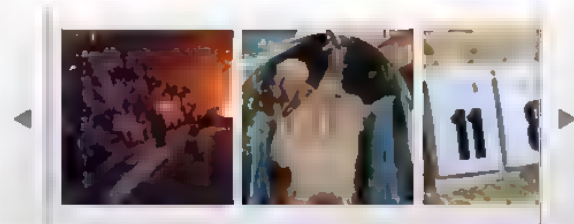
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Australia NT News 31 lug 2014 08 - 09 NEWS

## High-flying exercises

SEVERAL Australian and international air force operations have been keeping **UFO** out of Darwin's airspace.

The aircraft that could be heard flying over the Territory this week were part of a week-long Singaporean air force exercise. The exercise, which used F-15 Eagles and F-16 Falcons, concluded last night.

Exercise Southern Frontier was held from July 6-7 before the more recent Singaporean training exercise.

The exercises occupy Darwin's airspace leading up to the Royal Australian Air Force Exercise Pitch Black, which runs from August 1-22.

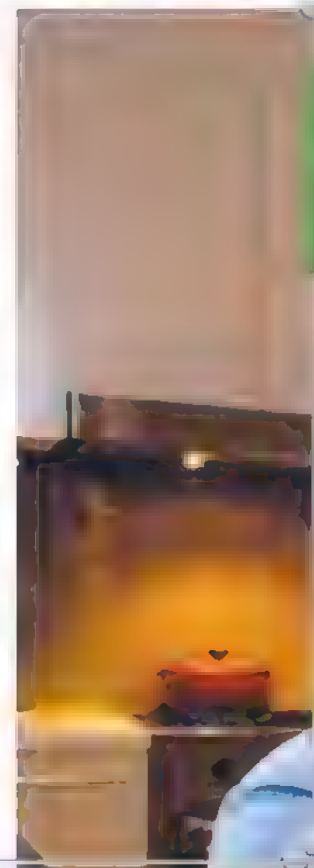


An F-16 Fighting Falcon

Ahead of the biennial Pitch Black exercise, the Australian Defence Force has asked the Darwin public to be patient as they train their air crews to the best of their ability.

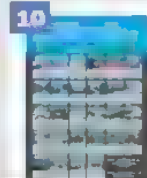
After Pitch Black, Exercise Koolendong will run from August 18 to September 14.

## Can you help? Cheers



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Monday, July 28, 2014

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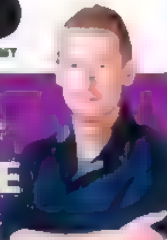
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**UFO SPOTTED  
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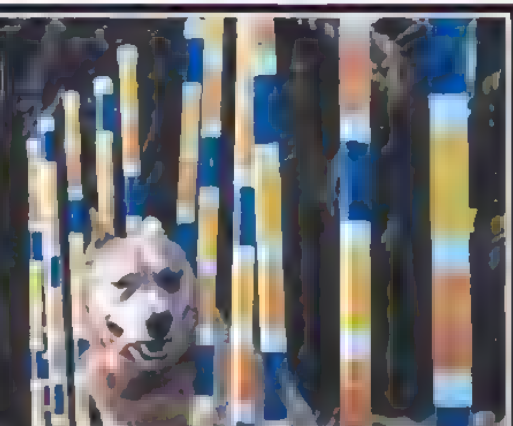
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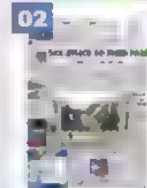


## Meet our newest national champ



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MONDAY JULY 28 2014

NEWS 03



# Stubbies at night, then one fast light



DAVID WOOD

David.wood@ntnews.com.au

A TERRITORY family has spotted a mysterious light in the sky that they described as "like nothing they had ever seen before".

Debbie Healey of Herbert, was enjoying a few stubbies on the veranda with partner Andrew when they saw it about

"I have never seen anything like this one before"

drove round the block, but we didn't see anything."

Ms Healey said the light was near Kelly Rd, in Herbert.

The Dry has long been regarded as alien season and the Territory has been on the

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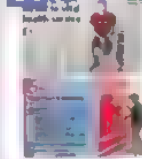
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# BABY, THAT'S GREAT NEWS

A PREGNANT primate in



## fast light



DAVID WOOD

"I have never seen anything like this one before"

A TERRITORY family has spotted a mysterious light in the sky that they described as "like nothing they had ever seen before".

Debbie Healey, of Herbert, was enjoying a few stubbies on the veranda with partner Andrew when they saw it about 10pm on Saturday.

The rural Darwin resident said the light moved from south to north across the sky and then went down at about 15 degrees.

"It was just one, very bright light," she said.

"It was very low in the sky, in our treetops. We are on the flight path and I saw the light out the corner of my eye.

"I looked up thinking it was a plane - then said to my partner Andrew, I said, 'Is that going really fast?'

"We jumped in the car and

drove round the block, but we didn't see anything."

Ms Healey said the light was near Kelly Rd, in Herbert.

The Dry has long been regarded as alien season and the Territory has been on the brink of invasion several times, with believers telling tales of spotting alien craft in the form of a station wagon.

Ms Healey said she wanted to know if other people had seen the UFO.

"There was no flame, no tail or anything - it was not quite what you expect to see going through the sky," she said.

"I have never seen anything like this one before."

"You see things like stars or a shooting star or you see a light in the sky, but this was different."

## Landmark club reopens

AN ICONIC Alice Springs

will be glad to see the building back in use," he said

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Pagine

- 02
- 03
- 04
- 05



# Odd light a mystery

## Sighting has family perplexed

DANIEL BATEMAN

WERE extraterrestrial tourists among the thousands of people from far and wide who flocked to the Cairns International Speedway at the weekend to watch burning rubber?

A Mt Sheridan resident swears she and her family all spotted a **UFO** zooming around the sky above Edmonston late Saturday night.

Terry Allen, who lives on a hill at the southern Cairns suburb, said she was a 100 per cent nonbeliever in **UFOs** until something truly unexplained lit up the sky above the Robert Rd area during their barbecue, about 10.45pm.



IMPRESSIVE. The Cairns Burnout Club's burnout competition might have attracted some out-of-this-world viewers. PICTURE: BRENDAN RADKE

"I said to everyone look at

## Cairns to CS hit y

HUNDREDS of North scientists in the field of science education the CSIRO children's department.

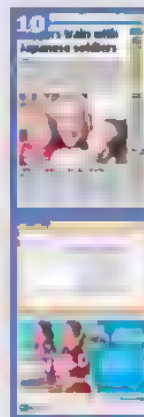
The CSIRO education and outreach nearly a third of government funding, reduced Budget by \$20 million in 2014-2015, funded by another \$10 million the next five years.

Among the club Double H spent 25 years hands-on science thousands of Australia, including Far North school.

Peace Lutheran science department Michelle Cummins school had demonstrated laboratories as the extra-curriculum which was attended by students across the state.

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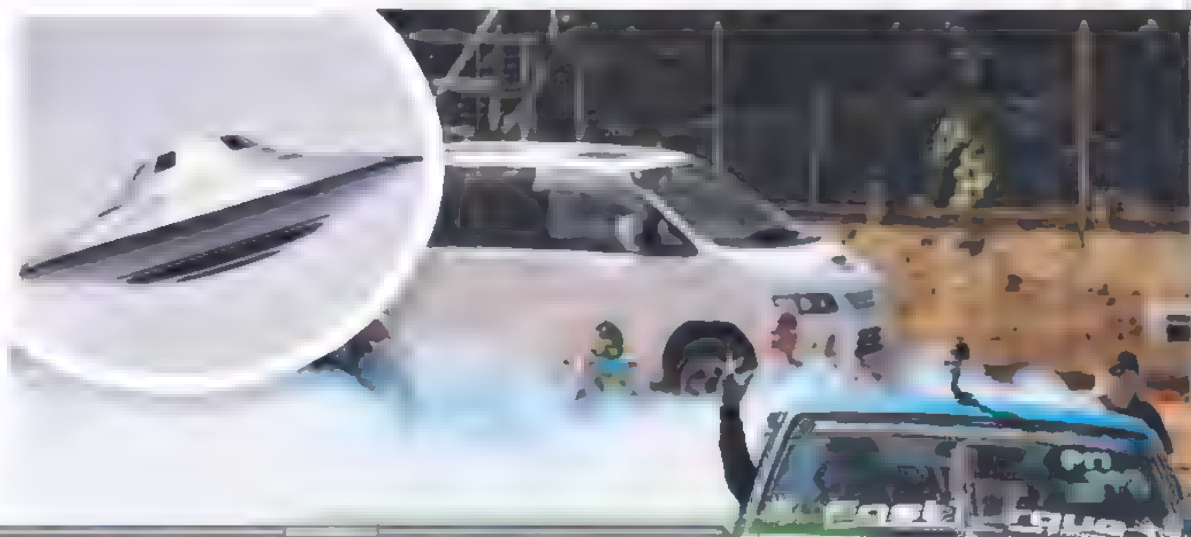
CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU TUESDAY AUGUST 5 2014

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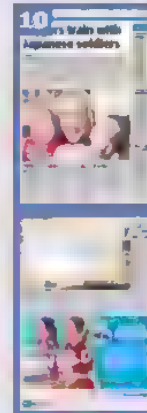
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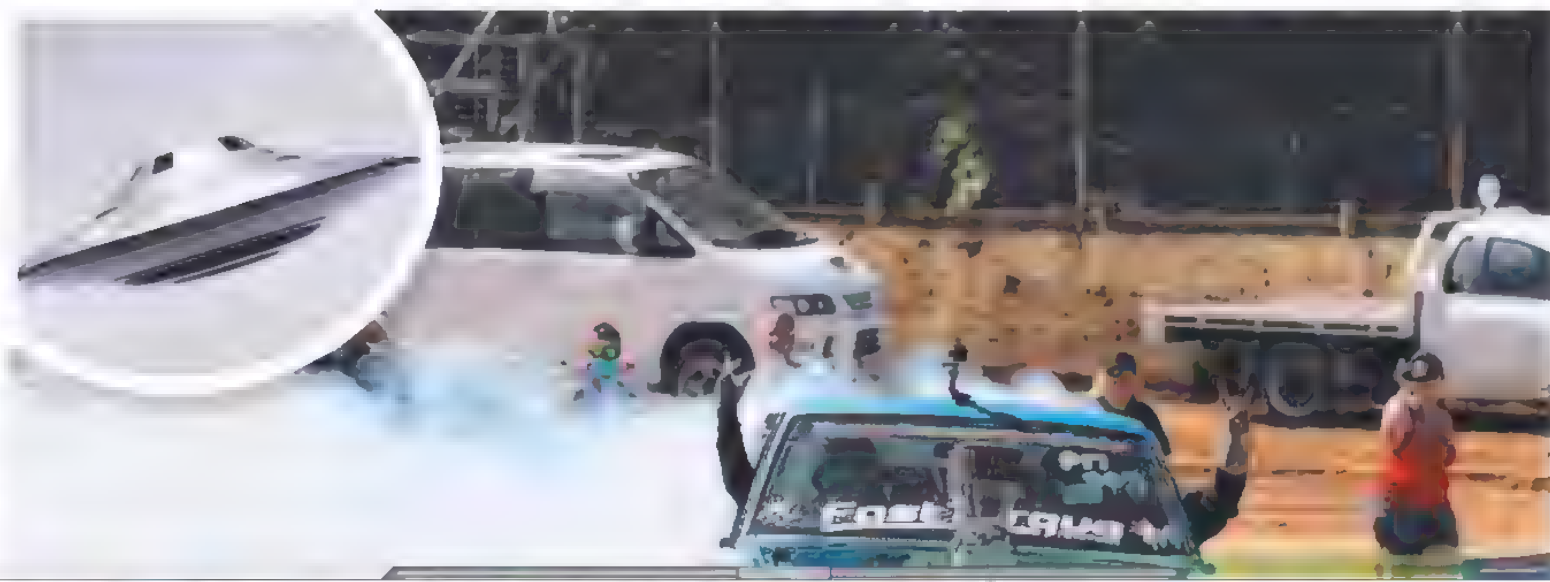
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IMPRESSIVE: The Cairns Burnout Club's burnout competition might have attracted some out-of-this-world viewers. Picture: BRENDAN RADKE

"I said to everyone, 'look at this' and we all turned and this forth, then tuned red and hov- nesses at the barbecue, includ- spokesman said the event

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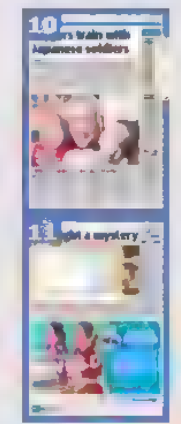
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gli immagini in  
miniatura

Pagine





flocked to the Cairns International Speedway at the weekend to watch burning rubber?

A Mt Sheridan resident swears she and her family all spotted a **UFO** zooming around the sky above Edmonton late Saturday night.

Terry Allen, who lives on a hill at the southern Cairns suburb, said she was a 100 per cent nonbeliever in **UFOs** until something truly unexplained lit up the sky above the Robert Rd area during their barbecue, about 10.45pm.

"We have a 180-degree view of the whole of Cairns and the speedway was on," she said.

"The lights were on at the speedway, and I got up to get a cup of tea.

"I could see these white lights — it was really, really bright — and they were coming really fast.



IMPRESSIVE: The Cairns Burnout Club's burnout competition might have attracted some out-of-this-world viewers

"I said to everyone, 'look at this' and we all turned and this thing came faster and faster, on an upward trajectory.

"It was all very odd. It didn't look like a plane. There was no sound, and it was just behaving very strangely."

She said the object, describing it as "dog-bone shaped", started zigzagging back and

forth, then tuned red and hovered for a couple of minutes before turning back to white.

"It went back the way it came, seemingly not turning around and gaining in speed on descent towards the mangrove area near the Edmonton boat ramp," she said.

"There was no noise."

She said none of the wit-

nesses at the barbecue, including several over 50 years, were drug or alcohol affected.

Thousands of people headed to the Cairns International Speedway on Saturday night to attend the Tropical Meltdown event, including some coming from as far as Adelaide and Melbourne.

A Tropical Meltdown

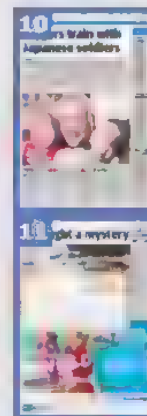
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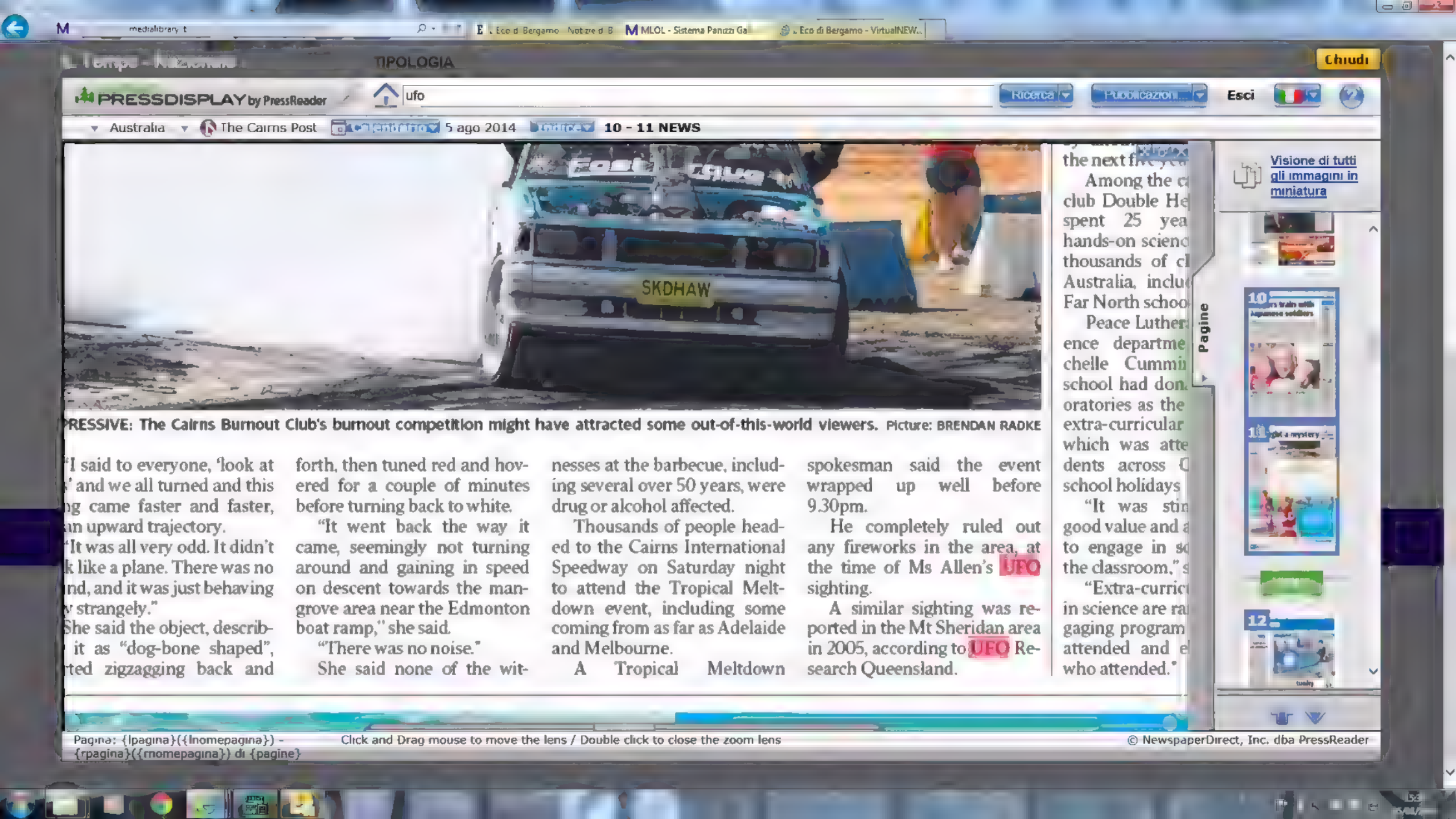
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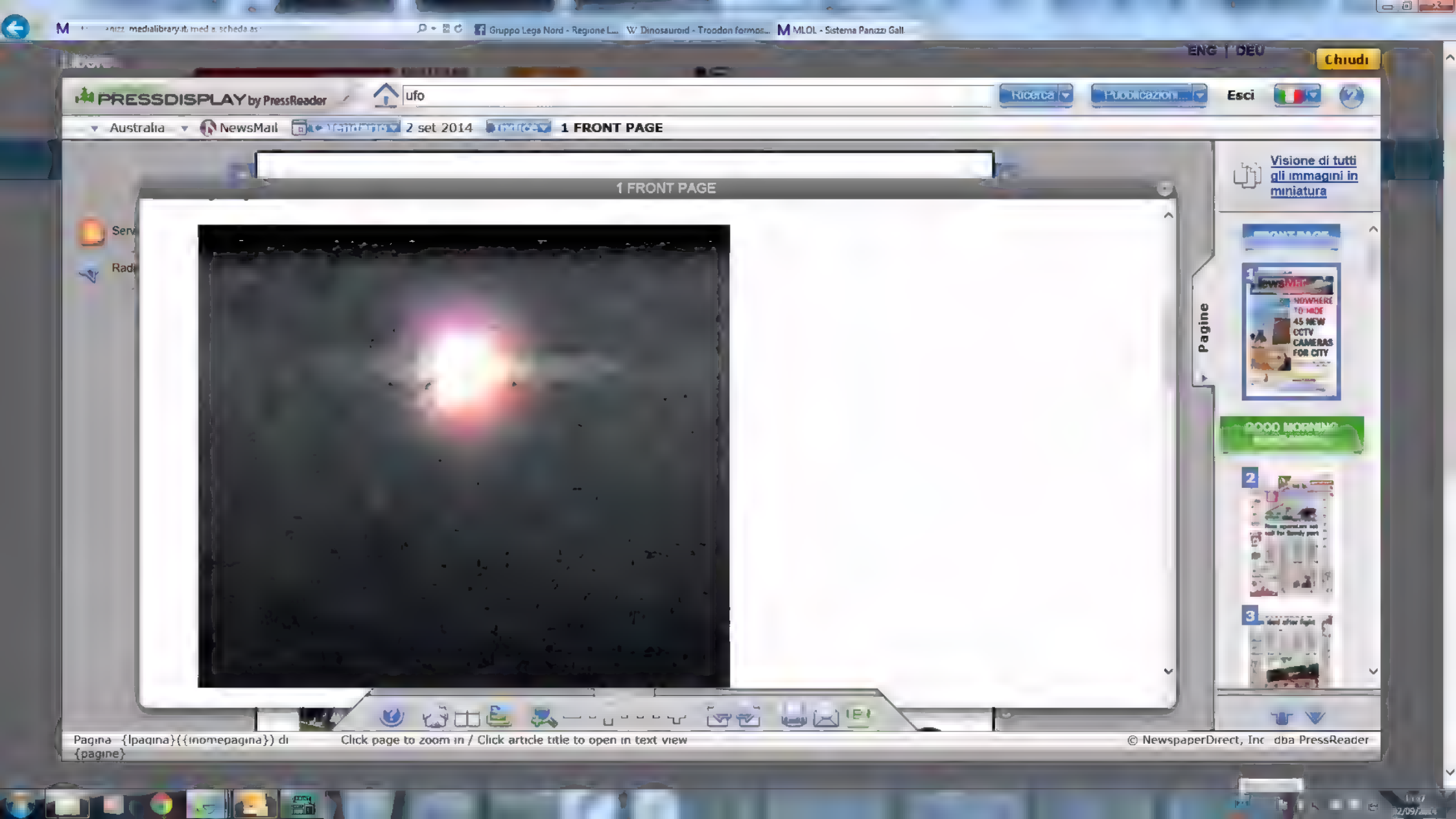
spokesman said the event wrapped up well before 9.30pm. He completely ruled out any fireworks in the area, at the time of Ms Allen's UFO sighting. A similar sighting was reported in the Mt Sheridan area in 2005, according to UFO Research Queensland.

the next five years. Among the club Double Helix spent 25 years hands-on science thousands of clubs in Australia, including Far North schools. Peace Lutheran science department chelle Cummins school had done laboratories as the extra-curricular which was attended by students across Queensland school holidays. "It was still good value and a chance to engage in science outside the classroom," she said. "Extra-curricular in science are really engaging programs that attended and enjoyed by who attended."

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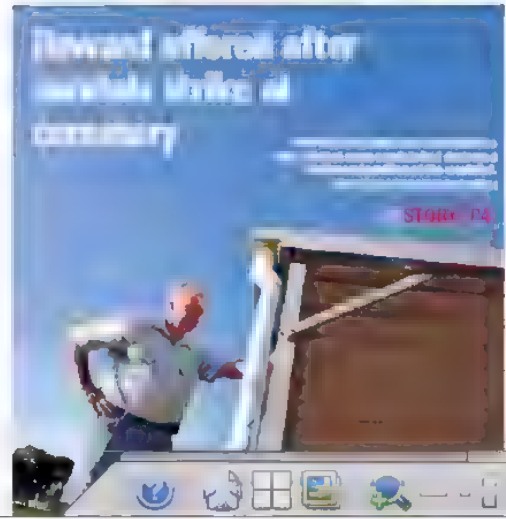
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# NewsMail

Connecting Our Community

## UFO SIGHTING AT CHILDERS

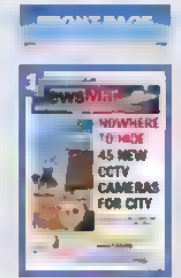
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# NOWHERE TO HIDE: 45 NEW CCTV

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GOOD MORNING







## Council in icon search

THE search is on for people across the region interested in contributing to a Bundaberg Regional Council iconic events advisory committee.

The council has advertised vacancies on the committee.

Council's community events spokeswoman Judy Peters said the formation of the committee was a positive step forward in evaluating current regional events and to endeavour to identify future events that could achieve iconic status.

Cr Peters said an iconic event was one that had a capability of achieving a size and scale that would attract people from outside the region, was worthy of sponsorship support and could demonstrate the qualities of the region.

"Council has advertised four positions to be filled on the committee," she said.

"We require two people from the general community and two from the business sector."

An expression of interest web form is available by linking directly to the details on the council's website at [www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/iconic-events](http://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/iconic-events).

## Report: Man tells of seeing lights in the scrub

# UFO focus moves to Childers area

Man's story  
by Peter G. ...

UFO researchers are considering travelling to Childers to investigate sightings in bush near the town.

UFO Research Queensland president Sheryl Gottschall said a man from Childers called her on August 14 to report seeing strange lights.

"He called in May last year and reported seeing something," she said.

"He also called on August 4."

Ms Gottschall said when he called on August 14 he had decided to follow some of the lights he had spotted.

"He said he could see two bright lights on the ground and one in the air," she said.

"He said they were bigger than a car."

She said the man told her he could see the lights clearly through the scrub and



A still from a video snapped last year by NewsMail reader Lindsay Holder showing an apparent UFO.

"He said he got 200m from them, and he was whispering while he was talking to me on the phone," she said.

Ms Gottschall said there

fore

"There's always reports, we get about 100 a year," she said.

Ms Gottschall said there

had been an increase in the Gold Coast area recently.

She said what the man had spotted near Childers was interesting.

But she said she would not be in a hurry to approach anything mysterious.

"You would have to observe them for a while before you approach them," she said.

"They could be military for all we know," she said.

Ms Gottschall said people saw different things that they called UFOs.

"Some of them sound like aerial drones being used for different things," she said.

"They could be police or some company."

"We've got to take it all into account."

Ms Gottschall claims to have seen five UFOs and had one "close encounter".

## APN to discuss NZ IPO

APN News and Media, publisher of the NewsMail, is considering an initial public offer and share-market float for its New Zealand business.

The businesses under consideration for the IPO would include the New Zealand

News and the Herald on Sunday digital services, regional and community papers, all of its radio assets under TRN and all of online daily deal site Grabone.

APN is expected to start talking to possible investment community partners.

The timing of any possible dealer IPO was yet to be determined.

APN is expected to remain a major shareholder if an IPO takes place. The new firm would have its own board and governance.

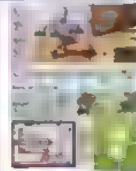
APN NZ chief executive of five-line Hastings said closer collaboration between all APN's media businesses had only just begun but was starting to pay off for the company.

Australian Regional Media owner of the NewsMail is an APN-owned business.

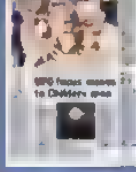
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5 GOOD MORNING BUNDABERG

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Mike Derry

[m.derry@news.com.au](mailto:m.derry@news.com.au)

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A still from a video snapped last year by NewsMail reader Lindsay Holder showing an apparent UFO.

"He said he got 300m from them, and he was whispering while he was talking to me on the phone," she said.

Ms Gottschall said the organisation had had reports from the Bundaberg area before.

"There's always reports, we get about 100 a year," she said.

Ms Gottschall said there was always UFO activity across the state, but there

had been an increase in the Gold Coast area recently.

She said what the man had spotted near Childers was interesting.

But she said she would not be in a hurry to approach anything mysterious.

"You would have to observe them for a while before you approach them," she said.

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Anyone with a UFO sighting should contact the phone 3370 1780.

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UFO focus moves to Childers area



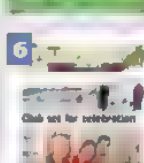
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UFO focus moves to Childers area



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UFO focus moves to Childers area





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**Report:** Man tells of seeing lights in the scrub

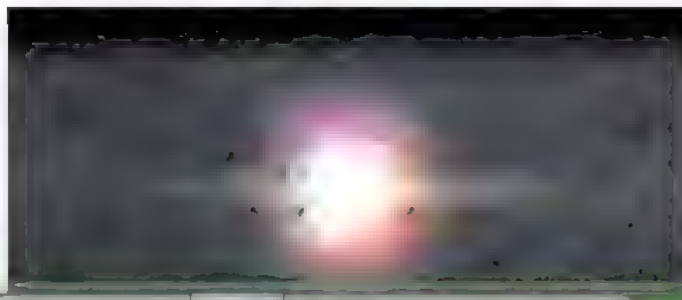
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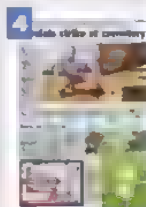
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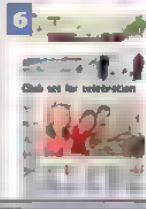


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EASY EATING



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**Mike Derry**

[mike.derry@news-mail.com.au](mailto:mike.derry@news-mail.com.au)

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"He also called on August 4."

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"He said he could see two bright lights on the ground and one in the air," she said.

"He said they were bigger than a car."

She said the man told her he could see the lights



A still from a video snapped last year by NewsMail reader Lindsay Holder showing an apparent UFO.

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"There's always reports, we get about 100 a year," she said.

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"You would have to observe them for a while before you approach them," she said.

"They could be military for all we know," she said.

Ms Gottschall said people saw different things that they called UFOs.

"Some of them sound like aerial drones being used for different things," she said.

"They could be police or some company."

"We've got to take it all into account."

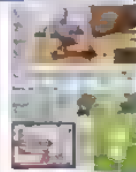
Ms Gottschall claims to have seen five UFOs and had one "close encounter".

Anyone with a UFO

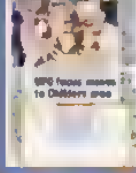
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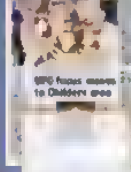
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miniatura

Pagine

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6



# UFO focus moves to Childers area

Mike Derry  
[mike.derry@news-mail.com.au](mailto:mike.derry@news-mail.com.au)

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## discuss NZ IPO

APN News and Media, publisher of the NewsMail, is considering an initial public offer and share market float for its New Zealand business.

The businesses under consideration for the IPO would include the New Zealand Herald, the Herald on Sunday, digital services, regional and community papers, all of its radio assets under TRN and all of online daily deal site grabone.

APN is expected to start talking to possible investment community partners.

The timing of any possible deal or IPO was yet to be determined.

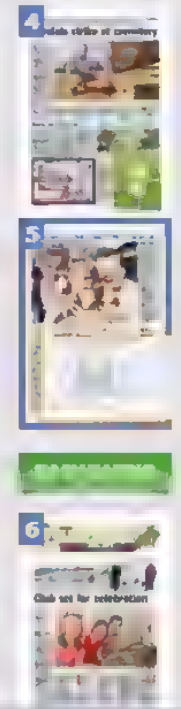
APN is expected to remain a major shareholder if an IPO takes place. The new firm would have its own board and governance.

APN NZ chief executive officer Jane Hastings said closer collaboration between all APN's media businesses had only just begun but was starting to pay off for the company.

Australian Regional Media, owner of the NewsMail, is an APN-owned business.

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Pagine





## est to start ar 12 students

and rank for tertiary entrance," Mr Langbroek said.

The QCS test does not test particular knowledge of specific Year 12 subjects.

It tests a set of generic skills from the Queensland senior curriculum.

Those sitting the test are asked to respond to a variety of stimulus materials, such as prose passages, poetry, graphs, tables, maps, mathematical and scientific data, cartoons and artistic works.

The test assumes that candidates have basic levels of general knowledge and vocabulary and a Year 10 knowledge of mathematical operations. - APN NEWSDESK

## Childers sighting sets off UFO hunt

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- APN NEWSDESK

## AN EYE FOR MANPOWER

### TREV'S SECURITY: YOUR EYES OVER YOUR CITY

With an experienced and professional team of security personnel, Trev's Security has proven time and again they have what it takes to look out for Gladstone.

Cash handling | ATM repairs | Alarm systems  
Speed guns | Drug and alcohol testing  
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236 Alf O'Rourke Drive, Gladstone

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It was all good from the comments I heard," he said. "The really good news for Gympie is that the Muster is back on track."

**STAR POWER:** Country musician Sara Storer helped to make 100 farming family guests feel welcome at the Muster.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

## ng' survival story



**SURVIVAL:** A young man survived this crash, somehow.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

ning off the wrong side of the road on a crest.

"It's amazing I can't be.

## UFO calls at Childers

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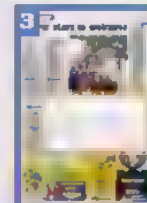
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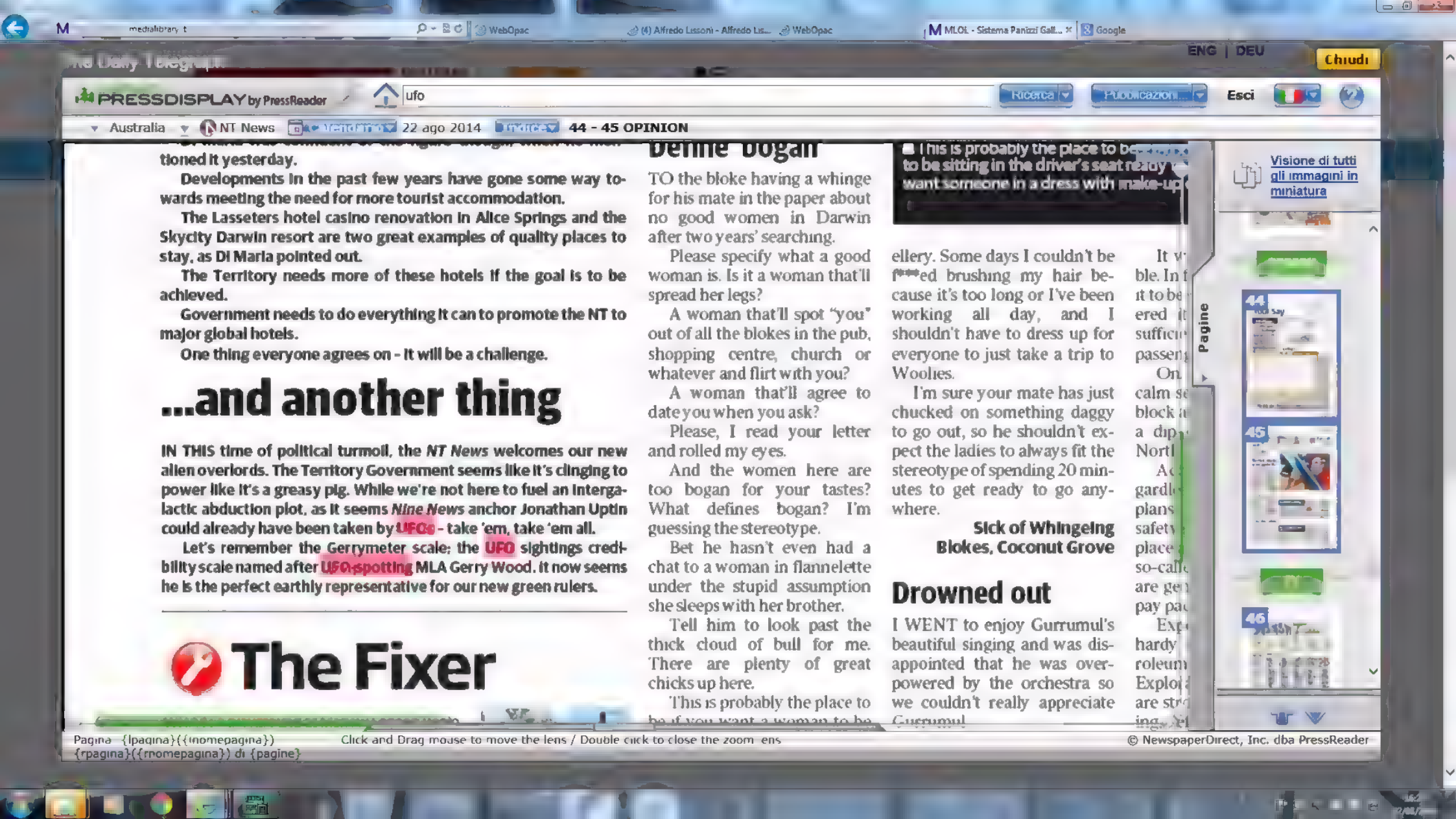
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tioned it yesterday.

Developments in the past few years have gone some way towards meeting the need for more tourist accommodation.

The Lasseters hotel casino renovation in Alice Springs and the Skycity Darwin resort are two great examples of quality places to stay, as DI Maria pointed out.

The Territory needs more of these hotels if the goal is to be achieved.

Government needs to do everything it can to promote the NT to major global hotels.

One thing everyone agrees on - It will be a challenge.

## ...and another thing

IN THIS time of political turmoil, the NT News welcomes our new alien overlords. The Territory Government seems like it's clinging to power like it's a greasy pig. While we're not here to fuel an intergalactic abduction plot, as it seems *Nine News* anchor Jonathan Upton could already have been taken by **UFOs** - take 'em, take 'em all.

Let's remember the Gerrymeter scale; the **UFO** sightings credibility scale named after **UFO-spotting** MLA Gerry Wood. It now seems he is the perfect earthly representative for our new green rulers.

# The Fixer

## Denne bogan

TO the bloke having a whinge for his mate in the paper about no good women in Darwin after two years' searching.

Please specify what a good woman is. Is it a woman that'll spread her legs?

A woman that'll spot "you" out of all the bokes in the pub, shopping centre, church or whatever and flirt with you?

A woman that'll agree to date you when you ask?

Please, I read your letter and rolled my eyes.

And the women here are too bogan for your tastes? What defines bogan? I'm guessing the stereotype.

But he hasn't even had a chat to a woman in flannelette under the stupid assumption she sleeps with her brother.

Tell him to look past the thick cloud of bull for me. There are plenty of great chicks up here.

This is probably the place to be if you want a woman to be

I his is probably the place to be to be sitting in the driver's seat ready to want someone in a dress with make-up

ellery. Some days I couldn't be f\*\*ed brushing my hair because it's too long or I've been working all day, and I shouldn't have to dress up for everyone to just take a trip to Woolies.

I'm sure your mate has just chucked on something daggy to go out, so he shouldn't expect the ladies to always fit the stereotype of spending 20 minutes to get ready to go anywhere.

### Sick of Whinging Bokes, Coconut Grove

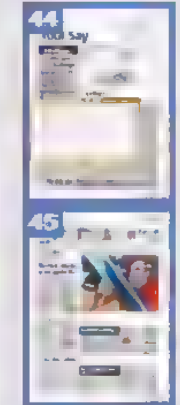
## Drowned out

I WENT to enjoy Gurrumul's beautiful singing and was disappointed that he was overpowered by the orchestra so we couldn't really appreciate Gurrumul

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# verdict

es around the country. subsequent Queensland position freedom of information request revealed 47% of criminal motorcycle gang participants had a criminal record.

The Commonwealth Attorney General and Attorneys General of New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory have urged forces to help defend the laws.

It is understood if the laws are upheld, aspects of the legislation if not the entire legisla-

tion, are expected to be rolled out nationally in supporting states.

Mr Kuczborski, in his submission to the High Court, said the laws were constitutionally invalid because they undermined the institutional integrity of Queensland courts.

He further claimed the laws were invalid because they undermined Queensland courts and sought to enlist courts to "do the bidding" of the Queensland legislature and executive.

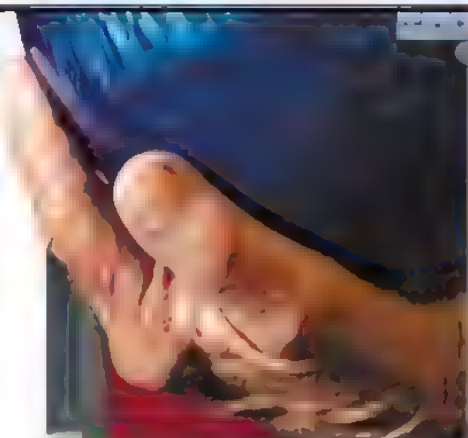
- APN Newsdesk

placed on a four month good behaviour bond with \$500 recognisance and ordered to attend drug diversion for the drug offences.

## Surge in UFO calls

THERE has been a spike in the number of reported UFO sightings across the state over recent months, according to president of UFO Research Queensland Sheryl Gottschall. "We've had people calling from all over Queensland," Ms Gottschall said. A UFO was reportedly spotted over Woolloowin on May 23. "There was a sighting on the Gold Coast on Friday night, Cairns last week and there was another sighting in Childers," Ms Gottschall said. "We get about 100 calls a year ... That's just the reported sightings."

- [brisbanetimes.com](http://brisbanetimes.com)



STRIKE FORCE: Mavis Peters, 97, goes

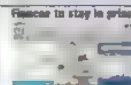
## Bowling th

MAVIS Peters has been lining up pins for more than a quarter of a decade.

Each Monday, without fail, the dedicated league bowler gets a lift into the Suncity Tenpin at Alexandra Headland and mixes it with the best of them.

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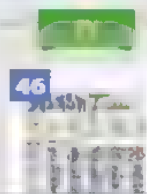
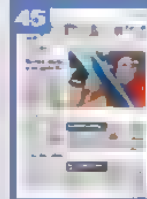
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NT TIMES - AUSTRALIA 22-8-14



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— **brisbanetimes.com**

SUNSHINE COAST DAILY

AUSWRAU - 2-4-14

## FACEBOOK FEEDBACK

What our social networkers are saying



**UFO** sightings are becoming more common in areas including Childers and the Gold Coast.

■ Three nights in a row, one light breaking up into four and going back together, lights shooting up into the sky faster than anything I've seen before, lights going horizontal in the sky faster than I've ever seen before and when planes fly over the **UFO** lights fade away but as soon as the plane is gone they come back. Location is around Deniliquin NSW, 2710 please someone tell me they have seen this too. The

four army helicopters flew over our heads real low directly at the lights' direction then when they got close, the **UFO** lights dimmed out.

**Rosco Sefton**

■ Beam me up Scotty, there's no intelligent life down here.

**Gav Hunter**

■ I've seen a few weird things in the sky around Bundaberg. I wouldn't straight away say it was aliens, but definitely a **UFO** for sure.

**Amber Beattie**

■ With the amount of drugs being consumed these days it's not a shock something as ridiculous as this is on

## YOUR SAY

All letters must be signed with a name and suburb to be

### Stop the barbarians

I AGREE with Tom Gallagher about the prolific writings referred to.

If one reads deeper into that letter, one will see the extreme dislike of the US.

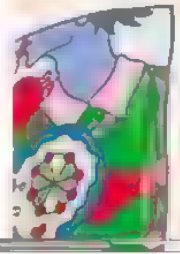
It seems to me that whenever there is a conflict in the world everyone looks to the USA for help; but when the help is offered, they badmouth the US.

You can't have your cake and eat it too.

We seem to have "ephemeral" (fleeting/short term) mindsets when it comes to recalling the horrors we have witnessed - remember the slaughter of a man on television and a child holding a severed head? This is reality and is barbarism pure and simple.

These lunatics are coming after us whether we hide our

**CHEERS:** Take a leaf out of the books of the Germans (Oktoberfest) or Brazilians (Carnival), says one reader.



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Pagine





fade away but as soon as the plane is gone they come back. Location is around Deniliquin NSW, 2710 please someone tell me they have seen this too. The last three nights and on the way to work (5am) they are still there. Last night we were driving into town towards the lights so to speak, they were getting brighter the closer we got, then

sure.

**Amber Beattie**

■ With the amount of drugs being consumed these days it's not a shock something as ridiculous as this is on the rise!

**Skye-Blue Woodgate**

■ Recognise their ships, easy when you know how. Every night I see martians.

**John Knock**

slaughter of a man on television and a child holding a severed head? This is reality and is barbarism pure and simple.

These lunatics are coming after us whether we hide our heads in the sand or not. This terrorism and barbarism must be stopped by all nations.

**BILL WATSON  
Bundaberg**

## Festival think tank

ON OCTOBER 12, 1810, the citizens of Munchen, Germany were invited to celebrate the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig, later to become King Ludwig I, to Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. Ever since, the Oktoberfest has been celebrated in Munchen with beer, sauerkraut and knackwurst, becoming the largest peoples' fair in the world.

Why would Bundaberg try to emulate a 16-day German



such carnivals and the catharsis provided by them.

Should Bundaberg encourage the development of a carnival or mardi gras? Of course it should.

It is a healthy exorcism of, or liberation from the disappointments of the past and deliverance to an enticing, pleasurable and auspicious future.

Should we copy other countries' carnivals or mardi gras? Certainly not.

There are several options: work on the Crush Festival,

## WWI just the

THE year 2014 marks the anniversary of the First World War, years ago, back in

It was the very first in the world's history of wars would involve nations in the world's name.

It was also called "The Great War", and, the conclusion of it in 1918 also called the "war to end all wars", as it was supposed to prevent war again.

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Prince Ludwig, later to become King Ludwig I, to Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. Ever since, the Oktoberfest has been celebrated in Munchen with bier, sauerkraut and knackwurst, becoming the largest peoples' fair in the world.

Why would Bundaberg try to emulate a 16-day German festival? And if so, why not "Fasching?"

Fasching is the centuries old German carnival season similar to Mardi Gras in New Orleans, Carnival in Rio de Janeiro even the Gay Mardi Gras in Sydney.

Today Fasching in Germany begins 11 minutes after 11am on the 11th of November and ends at midnight on Shrove Tuesday.

Most latin countries from the ancient Greeks onwards have had cathartic carnivals to purge the ills of the past and refresh the expectations of the future.

or liberation from the disappointments of the past and deliverance to an enticing, pleasurable and auspicious future.

Should we copy other countries' carnivals or mardi gras?

Certainly not.

There are several options: work on the Crush Festival, enhance, improve and invigorate it, or put together a temporary "think tank" with representation from all parts of the BRC, a true cross-section of its people including representation from all levels of income, age, influence and social standing.

Lock them in a room and don't release them unless they have come to a consensus.

We favour the invigoration of the Crush Festival by a "think tank" of a cross section of people as described above.

DIETER AND  
MARGOT MOECKEL

in the world. War would involve nations in the world its name.

It was also called "Great War", and, at conclusion of it in 1918, also called the "war of all wars", as it would be enough to prevent another war again.

Unfortunately, it was only a prelude to the flu, the Great Depression, the Second World War.

There has always been war somewhere over the centuries.

This brings up the question: is the world a better place now, and are the world's people finally in peace?

Anyone even casting a shadow following current events would know full well that things are far from peaceful.

Things are fairly peaceful in the Middle East, with the followers of Islam vying to enforce their views

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14

# Call to set up **UFO** squad

A LEADING Australian researcher has called for the launch of a quick-response team to investigate **UFO** sightings across Australia within hours of them being reported.

The civilian unit would take on a role similar to air crash investigators, interviewing witnesses and taking samples from the scene, with findings to be released publicly.

The concept was among proposals tabled by experts at a Victorian **UFO** action conference. Researcher Keith Basterfield also called for a symposium to

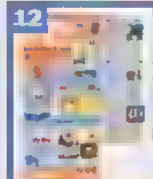


**UFO** sightings need probing

high-altitude weather balloon

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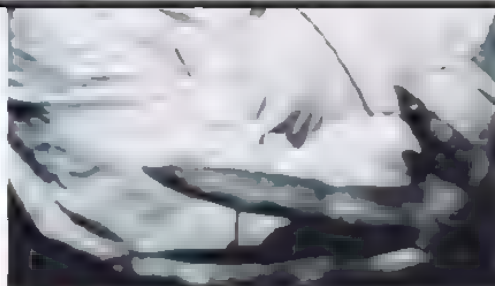


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The concept was among proposals tabled by experts at a Victorian **UFO** action conference. Researcher Keith Basterfield also called for a symposium to help explain one of Melbourne's most baffling cases.

The 1966 sighting over Westall High School in Clayton South could be solved by bringing together witnesses and experts, he said.

Questions were raised about the validity of claims a



### **UFO** sightings need probing

high-altitude weather balloon was to blame for the mystery.

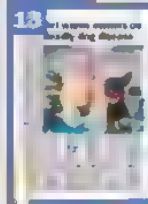
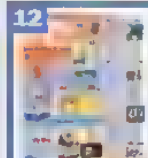
Interviews from witnesses on the day the **UFO** was spotted showed each described three objects hovering over trees.

Mr Basterfield said it was time a national network of researchers started sharing details of all "raw reports".

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Visione di tutti  
gli immagini in  
miniatura

Pagine





# We need the Men In Black

A LEADING Australian researcher has called for the launch of a quick response team to investigate **UFO** sightings across Australia within hours of them being reported.

The civilian unit would take on a role similar to air crash investigators, interviewing witnesses and taking samples from the scene to be tested, with findings documented and released publicly.

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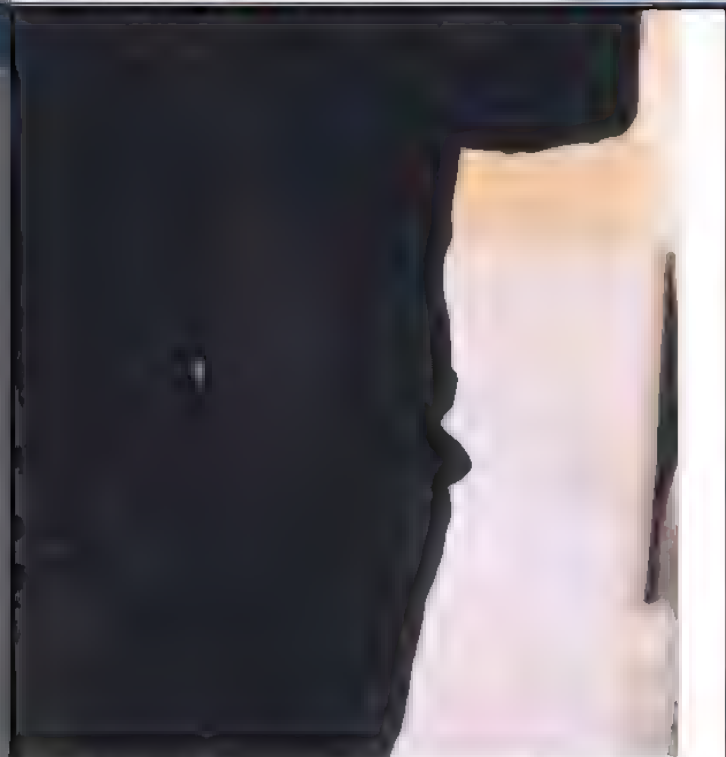
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Unstable Martin Wilson yesterday.

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The concept was among a raft of proposals tabled at a Victorian **UFO** conference.

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Adelaide number of Burnside Village retailers to be featured in parades at Fashion Friday on September 12 in the Hilton Adelaide's Brasserie Restaurant.

10,000

WE REACH  
85%  
OF THEM



September 4 in the Moorook pers on 1800 333 000 or online.

## Time to share **UFO** info

A LEADING Australian researcher has called for the launch of a quick response team to investigate **UFO** sightings across Australia within hours of them being reported.

The civilian unit would interview witnesses and take samples from the scene, with findings released publicly.

The concept was tabled at a

Victorian **UFO** conference. The audience of more than 100 also heard there was evidence to suggest the Federal Government kept tabs on current sightings, even though it had officially closed its books.

Researcher Keith Basterfield said it was time a national network shared details of all "incoming raw reports".

Visione di tutti  
gli immagini in  
miniatura



Pagine

### ***Storie di Ufo: un «semaforo» nel cielo di Barlassina***

**BARLASSINA** - Due Ufo sono stati avvistati mercoledì sera nel Milanese e in provincia di Pavia. Il primo è stato visto nel cielo di Barlassina verso le 22.20. L'oggetto luminoso cambiava forma in continuazione, mentre il suo centro roteava mandando bagliori.

L'oggetto è stato seguito da centinaia di persone. Fra queste, i coniugi Gino e Linda Ventura che si sono messi in contatto con il professor Antonio Chiumiento, presidente del Centro italiano studi ufologici.

Altra segnalazione è stata fatta da Gianni De Paoli, abitante a Valeggio (Pv).



Non  
raccontate  
balle! Questa  
storia, che  
sembra  
incredibile,  
mi è successa  
veramente.  
Stato  
a sentire

# Come sono sfuggiti grazie all'aiuto degli extraterrestri

«Sono vivo per miracolo. Se sono qui a raccontarla, lo devo agli extraterrestri. Sono loro che mi hanno salvato dai cannibali che stavano per uccidermi e mangiarmi. A raccontarvi queste cose, apparentemente incredibili, è un giovane dall'aspetto apparentemente credibile, educato, che narra con calma e lucidità un'incalante avventura, sedotto di fronte al nostro tavolo in redazione».

Si chiama Piero Femino 24 anni, interprete e traduttore diplomatico, abitante in via Torrazza 29, a Sant'Oreste vicino Genova. Un giovane dal passato avventuroso, nonostante la verde età che ha viaggiato mezzo mondo, ha fatto anche il disc jockey a Los Angeles e ne ha viste tante. Uno abituato a non stupirsi insomma, ma stavol-

ta si è stupito eccome. Ma sentiamo dalle sue labbra il racconto dell'avventura. Due mesi fa — dice — esattamente il 6 luglio mi trovavo in Africa nel Gabon, dove ero stato inviato da una ditta di Genova (di cui non faccio il nome per evitare pubblicità) con l'incarico di acquistare delle partite di manica, un tubero da cui si ricavava il "kou-kou" e il "lorot", due derivati di cui si cibano le po-

polazioni locali. Alloggiavo nel campo-base dell'Eurotrag, un'impresa multinazionale che sta costruendo la ferrovia Trans-Gabonese una realizzazione di circa 1000 chilometri detta la "Ferrovia dei diamanti", destinata a congiungere Ouendo con Francville e a Sud e con Belinga a Nord voluta dal presidente di quella nazione, El Hadj Omar Bongo un uomo che stimo molto per far uscire la sua Paese dallo stadio di arretratezza in cui si trova. La via che si trova ad una decina di chilometri da N'Djole un villaggio indigeno lungo il fiume Ogoué poche casuarie di paglia e fango. Ero solo nel villaggio per alcuni, ma avevo fretta di tornare a casa in quelle zone, sapevo, è pericoloso viaggiare di notte, ci sono ancora tribù selvagge, pigmei cannibali che uccidono i bianchi e neri e li mangiano. Il cannibalismo in Africa è ancora diffuso, nonostante le severe leggi che lo vietano perché secondo una etica e radicata credenza, gli indigeni sono convinti che mangiando la carne di un morto ne eredita le virtù e le qualità. Ma per i pigmei è diverso. Loro lo fanno, come dire per ghilotteria, come noi uccidiamo e mangiamo la selvaggina. Non volevo stare in giro di notte dunque, e lì, all'acquisto, la notte arriva presto, alle 18 è già buio, e le ombre, come si legge nei libri d'avventura, calano all'improvviso. Ci siamo messi in macchina, dunque, io e il mio autista indigeno, Badoou, sulla jeep "Toyota" che mi era stata messa a disposizione.

«Eravamo circa a metà strada, su una pista appena visibile nella "brouse", la impenetrabile giungla equatoriale, quando Badoou ha preso in pieno una delle tante enormi buche che mettono quel ventili, ed è scoppia-

ta una gomma. Siamo scesi, abbiamo cambiato la ruota in tanto era quasi notte quando abbiamo visto cadere due tronchi d'albero uno davanti e uno dietro alla jeep che è rimasta con chiusa in trappola. La prima che poteva rendermi conto di quello che stava succedendo, ho visto sbucare dal folto della foresta una decina di pigmei che ci hanno circondato. Franco semina di con addosso sotto un'occhiata di gonfiore di foglia erano armati di cerbotare con frecce avvelenate e lance dalla punta di mogano. Sono talmente primitivi infatti che non conoscevano ancora l'uso del ferro. Ci guardavano silenziosi, impassibili, senza fare alcun gesto, senza emettere alcun suono. Si sono limitati a sedersi in cerchio intorno alla jeep. Aspettavano che calasse del tutto l'oscurità, perché loro assaltano solo di notte. Poi, ne ero certo, ci avrebbero uccisi. Mi resi conto che non potevamo far niente non avevo armi, e comunque sarebbe stato inutile usarle, né potevamo fuggire, perché la macchina, come ho detto, era immobilizzata dagli enormi tronchi d'albero. Siamo rimasti in macchina aspettando l'attacco, la morte certa. Il mio autista tremava di paura. Io invece, non riesco a spiegarmi ancora adesso perché, non provavo niente non riuscivo ad avere emozioni. Era come se tutto quello stesse capitando a qualcuno altro e io fossi uno spettatore che assisteva. Mi sono messo addirittura a fare degli schizzi dei disegni della foresta dei selvaggi, per far qualcosa, per interrompere quella assurda situazione con un'occupazione semplice, con suola. I selvaggi si sono lentamente alzati. "Ci siamo" ho pensato. Quando ad un tratto è successo l'incredibile. Sopra le cime degli alberi altri simili è apparsi — non saprei

usare un altro termine, per che un attimo prima non c'era, ed un attimo dopo era lì — una specie di larzo di garzo rovesciato ma di forma ellittica, che sprigionava un'accecante luce arancione. Non forte come non ne ho mai viste. E da quando ne ho scaturivano altre, verdi, gialle, rosse una specie di variopinti arcobaleno. Il disco chiamandolo così per comodità, non faceva il minimo rumore. Si muoveva lentamente, pulsava come se fosse vivo, una lenta massa lo stile che al esterno sembrava quasi gassosa, tanto era intensa l'alone di luce, mentre all'interno si intravedeva la forma solida. Uno spettacolo incredibile. Sono rimasto a guardarlo a bocca aperta incapace di muovermi. Poi ho immaginato l'effetto che ha avuto sul pigmei. Sembravano impazziti, urlavano, saltavano, fuggivano in tutte le direzioni, cadevano a terra. Il tutto è durato 3, 5 minuti, non di più, anche se mi sembrò che fosse durato un secolo. Poi, come era venuto l'UFO con le luci Giudeici, dall'alto degli alberi che è di circa trenta metri che fosse rimasto ad ondeggiare ad un'altezza di circa 150 metri. Ho notato in quel momento anche una cosa cui non avevo fatto caso durante la tensione della "apparizione": tutti i rumori della foresta notturna, gli innumerevoli gracchi, i conigli, i ratti si erano completamente in un silenzio naturale che solo ora veniva rotto di nuovo. Dopo un po' di tempo riacquiesce insieme a Badoou, che era quasi svenuto di paura, abbiamo messo la macchina e ripreso la strada. I pigmei naturalmente non c'era più traccia. Questo è tutto. E mi guarda con un'aspirazione ansiosa come chi teme di essere preso per pazzo.

«Ma perché — gli chiedo allora — ha aspettato due mesi per raccontare questa storia, e perché infine si è deciso?».

«Temevo di essere preso per pazzo, per visionario — risponde — non l'ho raccontato mai a nessuno, né qui, né là, né in seguito, sinora. Ma poi visto che in queste settimane gli avvistamenti di UFO si sono ripetuti a decine, ho pensato che avevo qualche probabilità di essere creduto. Dall'altro non c'era nessuna prova, capisco, tranne la mia parola. Ma perché dovrei venire a raccontarvi delle storie, che viaggiamo ne avrete? E hai chi a queste cose lo non si aveva mai creduto. Mi facevano dire quelli che dicevano di aver visto dischi volanti, ed anche ora non so più cosa pensare. Non penso a nulla, in effetti mi limito a registrarvi quello che mi è accaduto. Ed escludo che possa essere stata un'allucinazione, ricordo la faccia di Badoou. Se mai un'ispirazione può diventare banco di spavento, quella sera lui è diventato. Posso provare tutto il mio viaggio in Africa, ho a casa il biglietto aereo per il Gabon, il viaggio fatto con la MEA, "Middle East Airlines", sul jumbo "Combi", costa un milione e mezzo. Posso prendere informazioni all'ambasciata italiana di Libreville (la capitale del Gabon), con cui ho avuto contatti. Altrimenti non posso darle. So solo che devo la vita a quel disco volante. Se non fosse arrivato in quel momento, io ora non sarei qui, ne nella pancia di qualche pigmeo. Ma perché poi sono arrivati in quel momento? È stato un caso, o sono intervenuti apposti? Non lo so, e credo che né io né lei lo sapremo mai». Per rafforzare le sue parole mi mostra un cilindro di legno che porta al collo, raffigurante una piccola testa. «Questo è un amuleto — dice — che mi è stato regalato da uno stregone».



Piero Femino mentre racconta la sua avventura



Pietro Semino mentre racconta la sua avventura

avere leggi che lo visitano perché, secondo una esesa e radicata credenza, gli indigeni sono convinti che chiamano le carni di un morto ne eredita le virtù e le qualità. Ma per i pigmei è diverso. Loro lo fanno come dire, per ghilottonia come noi uccidiamo e mangiamo la selvaggina. Non vorrei stare in giro di notte, dunque, e lì, all'equatore la notte arriva presto, alle 18 è già buio, e le ombre, come si legge nei libri «d'avventura, calano all'improvviso. Ci siamo messi in macchina, dunque, io e il mio autista indigeno, Badou, sulla jeep "Toyota" che mi era stata messa a disposizione.

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«Temevo di essere preso per matto per visionario — risponde — non l'ho raccontato mai a nessuno, né qui e là, né in seguito, sinora. Ma poi, visto che io, quella settimana e gli avvenimenti di UFO al sono ripetuti a decine ho pensato che aveva quasi e probabilità di essere credibile. D'altronde non avevo nessuna prova, capivole tranne la mia parola. Ma perché dovei venire a raccontarvi delle storie, che vaneggiare ne avrei? E badi che a queste cose io non ci avevo mai creduto. Mi facevano i miei amici che dicevano di aver visto dischi volanti ed anche ora non so più cosa pensare. Non pensavo a nulla, in effetti, mi limito a registrarla a quello che mi è accaduto. Ed è solo che possa essere di una illuminazione ricordo la faccia di Badou. Se mai un negro può diventare bianco di spavento, quella sera lui c'è diventato. Fui a provare solo il mio viaggio in Africa. Ho a casa il biglietto aereo per il Gabon, viaggio fatto con la MEA "Middle East Airlines", sul jumbo "Combi", costa un milione e mezzo. Può prendere informazioni alla ambasciata italiana di Libreville (la capitale del Gabon), con cui ho avuto contatti. Altre prove io non posso darle. So solo che devo la vita a quel disco volante. Se non fosse arrivato in quel momento, io ora non sarei qui, ma nella pancia di qualche pigmeo. Ma perché poi sono arrivati in quel momento? È stato un caso, o sono intervenuti apposti? Non lo so, e credo che né io né lei li sapremo mai». Per rafforzare le sue parole mi mostra un ciottolo di legno che porta al collo, raffigurante una piramide rovesciata. «Questo è un amuleto — dice — che mi è stato regalato da uno stregone indigeno durante una festa di benvenuto, in cui mi hanno ucciso e offerto un cibo che per loro è il massacro della raffica, una miniera di piramide come da noi offerte a voi e chiamano. Mi ha ucciso e offerto tre faccette di omaggio, faccette che non sarebbero state lì se non perché avevano una storia podiosa e base di piramide in sostanza che estinguono una razza, credo. E infatti, una combinazione. Ma nel Gabon c'è il più basso tasso di natalità dell'Africa». Da buon «gentleman» genovese, Semino non precisa se ne approfittato o no della «gara così offerta». Se ne va tranquillo, dopo averci raccontato questa allucinante storia.



*si aprono i dossier ed emergono sconcertanti documenti del Ventennio*

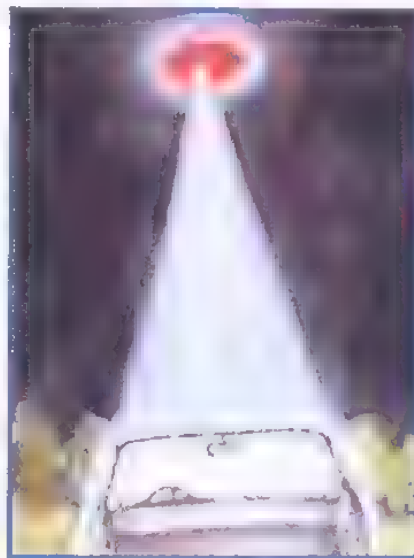
# IR-4: RAPIMENTI UFO NEL CUORE DELL'AFRICA NERA

I rapimenti UFO non sono un'esclusiva del mondo occidentale. Cynthia Hind, ufologa del MUFON Zimbabwe è autrice di numerosi studi e di libri quali "UFOs African Encounters" e "UFOs over Africa". In essi studia l'impatto del fenomeno UFO verso popolazioni che della materia non sanno nulla.

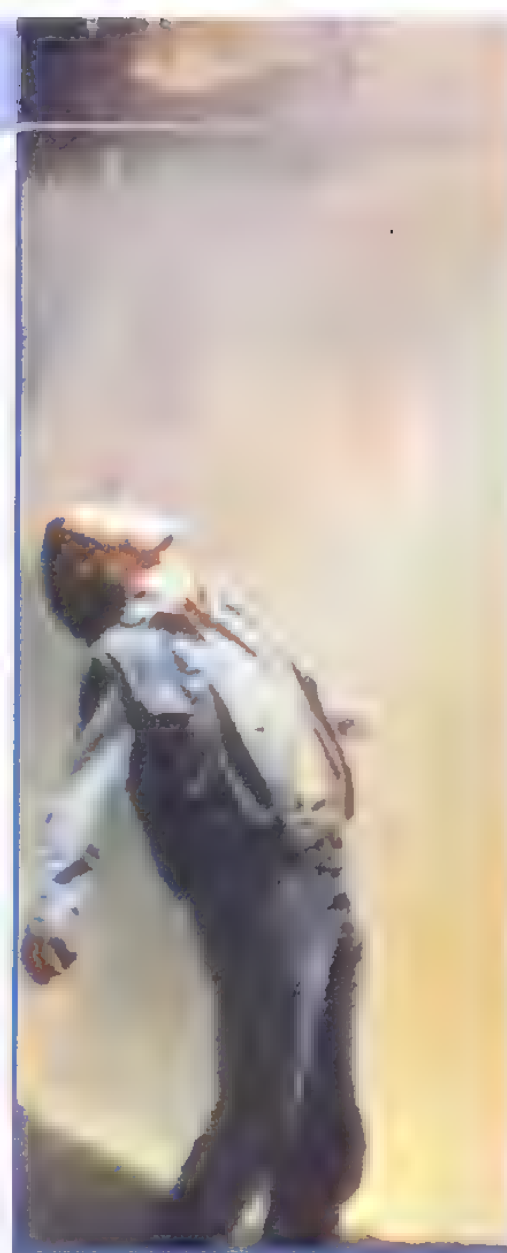
**H**o condotto ricerche in Africa ed in Sudafrica in particolare, una terra ufologicamente vergine, ove i dischi volanti sono stati segnalati senza creare il folklore generato in America dai giornali. In Sudafrica non si parla quasi mai di UFO, non esistono pubblicazioni locali e i pochi libri in lingua inglese che arrivano dall'estero ben difficilmente trattano la materia. Personaggi come Budd Hopkins o Whitley Strieber (celebri esperti di rapimenti UFO) in Africa sono dei perfetti sconosciuti.

E questo perché la popolazione di colore, che vive in condizioni di estrema miseria, ha ben altro a cui pensare. In più, in Africa solo i ricchi hanno la televisione, e l'ascolto è limitatissimo (nello Zimbabwe,

ad esempio, a soli 8 milioni di persone). E la scelta dei programmi cade molto spesso sul *Mavengwe-vengwe* (musica locale) o sul *Makadoka* (situation comedies); di rado



su *Star Trek* e *Visitors*. L'ascolto è limitato alle città e non alle aree rurali. Le radio, poi, trasmettono musica pop e vernacolare. I programmi in lingua inglese inclusi quelli scientifici, vengono snobbati dalla popolazione nera, che preferisce i programmi nel proprio dialetto. Tutto ciò dimostra che una contaminazione libraria o da mass media circa gli UFO non è stata possibile. Naturalmente nelle religioni locali esistono molti spiriti; pure per l'africano, che spesso non è andato mai oltre il proprio campo o il proprio laghetto, il concetto di 'spazio esterno' è qualcosa di difficile comprensione. E la vita nello spazio? "Solo Dio può camminare sulla Luna", vi rispondono... per questo che ritengo che lo studio del fenomeno UFO, in una terra





Un sito Internet che mostra una mano contenente un impianto extraterrestre.

così incontaminata, possa addurre nuove prove al fenomeno stesso

## FACOLTÀ PARANORMALI

Come altrove, anche i rapiti africani, perlopiù donne di pelle bianca, sono imbarazzati nel raccontare le proprie esperienze, spesso non associate al fenomeno UFO, e vissute come sogni lucidi. Ho nza del marchio). Durante le classiche tempeste tropicali, con fulmini, provava disturbi ogniqualvolta c'era un lampo. Nel 1984, mentre lavorava in un ufficio londinese, seduta alla scrivania, cominciò a muoversi come in trance; in quell'istante un tubo al neon le cadde sulla scrivania, evitandola per un pelo. Sembrava quasi che la trance fosse stata indotta da 'qual-

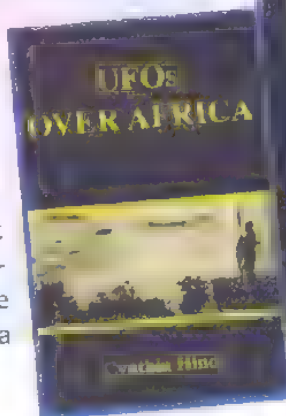
cuno', all'esterno, per salvarle la vita facendola spostare all'ultimo momento. In un'altra occasione, in sala da pranzo, un bulbo al neon cadde e si frantumò sul tavolo, mancandola di poco. Più recentemente, mentre era in cucina, le capitò un incidente simile, un altro neon cadde frantumandosi a pochi centimetri da lei. Janet confessò che, prima di ogni incidente, avvertiva una sensazione che la portava a spostarsi all'ultimo momento, salvandosi così da eventuali ferite. A parte molti sogni ricorrenti con viaggi astrali Janet ricordò solo un'esperienza psichica. Era nel giardino di casa quando vide due creature che descrisse come 'fate'. Erano piccolissime, forse 6 centimetri, vestite con una lunga gonna bianca e con ali di garza sottile. Questa testimonianza venne strappata alla donna solo con molta insistenza. Che, pure, si disse disponibile, in caso di richiesta, "ad andare con loro", con le fate. Un dato 'sociopsicologico': Janet ha avuto una vita sentimentale penosa e tuttora

preferisce vivere da sola.

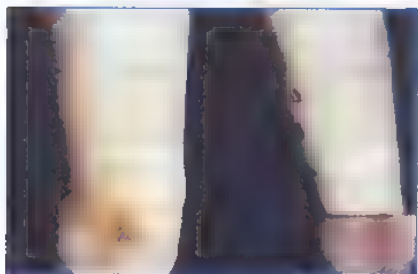
Un secondo testimone è Jenny di Bulawayo, una donna tormentata per venti anni da un sogno ricorrente, in cui si vede un uomo vestito di bianco intenzionato a portarla via. Sebbene Jenny sia sposata, l'uomo del sogno dichiara di volere vivere con lei.

Jenny ricordava di esser stata trasportata sul mare, verso una costruzione ottagonale con larghe finestre. Volava sul pelo dell'acqua... All'interno dell'oggetto un gruppo di persone vestite di blu stavano monitorando la zona. Una bella donna, umanoide andò verso Jenny e le spiegò che loro' stavano sorvegliando la nostra Terra.

Cynthia Hind, rappresentante del MUFON nello Zimbabwe e uno dei suoi libri sui rapimenti in Africa.







**C** **U** Cicatrici da inserimento di sonde aliene sul corpo di donne rapite.

Un giovane, al quale lei si rivolse, stava sorvegliando gli effetti di un terremoto verificatosi in Turchia. Jenny era afflitta. Lei disse che *"benché essi fossero molto gentili, c'era in atto una sorta di manipolazione, circa i nostri interessi; essi dissero che ci aiutavano con la sovrappopolazione del nostro pianeta"*.

Il rapimento di M.B. di Masvingo, Zimbabwe, ha connotazioni alquanto vaghe. La donna parlò di esseri umanoidi dai grandi attributi fisici. In questa occasione la Hind ha escluso qualsiasi contaminazio-

ne da letture ufologiche o resoconti giornalistici rimarcando un aspetto interessante del racconto, l'improvviso comparire, durante la notte, di un oggetto tondo argenteo, ronzante, *"come uno sciame d'api"*. L'oggetto apparve una seconda volta due anni dopo, allorché M.B. venne portata dentro l'astronave. La testimone disse di aver volato nell'astronave stando così vicino al suolo da poter vedere i sassi ed i solchi sul terreno. Ad un certo punto si vide in un corridoio pieno di porte e quando realizzò che *"essi"* la stavano riportando sulla Terra, fu presa dal panico. Li implorò di tenerla con loro, chiunque essi fossero. Janet di Durban, Sudafrica, stava bevendo un caffè, una notte tardi, quando vide un uomo uscire dal suo guardaroba,

guardaroba che sembrava mutarsi in un lungo tunnel senza fine.

L'uomo le fece un cenno, ma lei si rifiutò di seguirlo, e si fissò al letto. Ma, come in un incubo, venne afferrata da una forza invisibile e trascinata dentro il tunnel.

La mattina seguente Janet scoprì di non riuscire ad alzare le braccia, ammassate, e non fu capace di pettinarsi i capelli. Ricordava di esser stata portata in una stanza con un tavolo (clinico?), impregnata da uno strano odore.

Quella di Caroline di Chipinge, Zimbabwe, è la storia più interessante di tutte. La donna era a letto, sveglia, quando vide una palla di luce muoversi sul soffitto. Dopodiché la donna rimase paralizzata dalla luce emessa dall'oggetto e sentì che *"loro"* volevano portarla via in un raggio di luce.

In quel momento Caroline riuscì a vedere attraverso il soffitto della camera gli arintracciati il caso di Janet di Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, che, nel 1982, sognò di trovarsi in una stanza metallica piena di tavoli con strumenti medici. Janet non riusciva ad urlare, ma sentiva che le persone nella stanza le mettevano qualcosa sulla testa, una specie di berretto. Questi esseri erano persone normali, vestite però con una tuta di color bianco lucido o argentato.

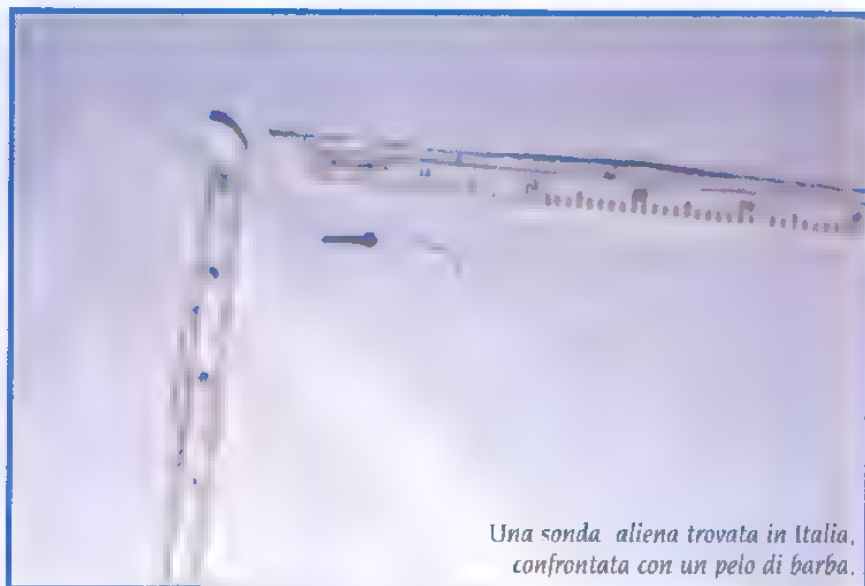
Quando si svegliò la mattina seguente, Janet notò un bozzo quan-





Alcuni momenti dell'estrazione di un impianto alieno.

to una moneta da 5 cent sulla parte destra della sua testa. L'ho visto ma, francamente, poteva esser qualsiasi cosa. Tuttavia, l'importanza di questo caso sta nel fatto che Janet non sa nulla di persone con sonde nella testa e quando menzionai questa possibilità alla fine della nostra intervista lei non sembrava particolarmente interessata. Dopo il sogno alla donna succedettero molti fatti strani: ebbe particolarmente una strana avversione verso gli elettrodomestici (quando usava il phon o l'arricciacapelli l'elettricità le causava fastidio e la sua testa le doleva in corrispondenza alberi ed il cielo stellato. Tentò di urlare ma nessun suono le uscì dalla gola. Quando l'oggetto



Una sonda aliena trovata in Italia, confrontata con un pelo di barba.

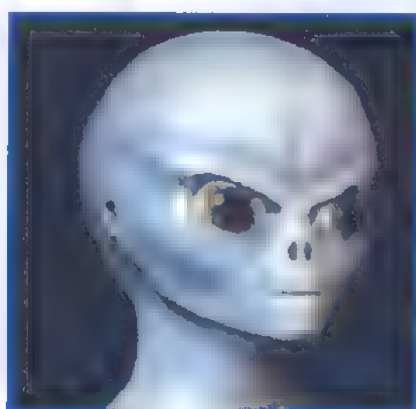
se ne andò, la donna corse a chiamare la madre. In quel momento le luci se ne andarono.

A questo punto la Hind ha cercato di dare una valutazione: "Queste abduzioni non possono esser confuse con i sogni, tanto la storia è chiara. Il teste è conscio di quello che gli è successo e benché in talune occasioni i testimoni abbiano ammesso che questo è accaduto in sogno, perché esso era più chiaro degli altri? I rapimenti non si verificano ogni notte, o una volta al mese. Capitano in genere una volta nella vita, al massimo due. Solo nel caso di Jenny gli incontri sono successi più frequentemente. I testimoni non parlano prontamente delle loro esperienze, e dato che in genere non ne sanno nulla, queste storie vengono alla luce molti anni dopo. E quante centinaia di casi non sono mai stati rivelati?

Ci sono delle costanti nelle abduc-

tions, anche se sempre con un largo margine. So, per esempio, che i rapimenti coinvolgono soprattutto le donne, buone osservatrici, salvo qualche caso. Esse erano giovani quando avvenne il fatto, anche se non nei termini della 'sindrome dei 7 anni' di Budd Hopkins (cioè rapimenti di bambine, N.d.A.). Ci sono altri fattori fondamentali, ma non applicabili ad ognuno, e con solo 5-6 casi non posso formulare sufficienti costanti. Così per ora aspetto e spero. Da quel che ne so, gli psicologi non hanno ancora dato una risposta completa.. '.

E nemmeno noi vogliamo dare una risposta, semplicemente invitiamo allo studio e alla riflessione. I casi qui presentati, con un alto contenuto onirico, meritano uno studio approfondito con l'aiuto della psicanalisi e con l'interpretazione freudiana dei sogni. Ciò non toglie comunque nulla ad una eventuale realtà del fenomeno. Che, al contrario, pare proprio caratterizzato, in tutto il mondo, da un quarto di realtà (tracce, cicatrici, sonde) e tre quarti di fabulazione (fenomeni paranormali, passaggi attraverso le mura, fobie). L'incontaminazione 'ufologica' del continente africano può dunque fornire al ricercatore nuovi elementi, puri, per continuare il proprio studio. In attesa di altri eventi.





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## MISTERIOSA ESPLOSIONE al largo della Nuova Zelanda

Auckland, 6 febbraio

Una misteriosa e terrificante esplosione ha scosso oggi la costa occidentale dell'isola del sud della Nuova Zelanda. La gente ha riferito di avere visto contemporaneamente in cielo una luce accecante di colore argenteo.

Secondo numerose persone che hanno visto il fenomeno da punti estremamente distanti uno dall'altro si trattava di un oggetto a forma di sigaro che procedeva a grandissima velocità ed emetteva una luce abbagliante.

L'esplosione è stata intesa per un tratto ampio varie centinaia di chilometri quadrati e lo strano oggetto è stato scorto da quattro punti diversi.

## Una sfera luminosa sorvola l'Inghilterra

LONDRA, 25. — Una sfera luminosa con una coda di colore verde-rossastro ha sorvolato ieri sera l'Inghilterra e il Galles, lasciando una scia di fuoco e fumo di color rosso e poi è parso esplodere a grande altezza.

In molte parti del paese la polizia ha ricevuto dozzine di chiamate telefoniche da persone che avevano avuto l'impressione di una sciagura aerea.

## STRANA SOSTANZA GRIGIA caduta su una città USA

Horseheads, 22 febbraio

In questo piccolo centro dello Stato di New York è caduta dal cielo, domenica sera, una certa quantità di una materia grigia di consistenza filiforme di cui non si è saputo finora spiegare l'origine. Gli scienziati che l'anno esaminata l'hanno trovata leggermente radioattiva.

La sostanza, che un testimone ha descritto «grigia, sfilacciata e simile al nallon» è caduta su un'area di più di due chilometri quadrati.

Un professore di chimica ha detto che la sua radioattività non deve sorprendere, dati gli esperimenti atomici in corso.

## Un sorprendente fenomeno osservato dalla via di Decima

Sulla via di Decima ieri sera verso le 20: numerose persone hanno assistito ad un sorprendente fenomeno che è durato per una decina di minuti. Non si trattava dei soliti «dischi volanti» ma di una luce rossastra che si spostava velocemente nel cielo ad una quota imprecisata ma non certo inferiore ai mille metri. L'apparizione della luce e le evoluzioni che questa ha compiuto nel cielo hanno richiamato l'attenzione di alcuni automobilisti.

Il sorvolo di New York era eseguito nel periodo acutissimo della crisi di Formosa. La via di Decima è nei sobborghi di Roma: era la «vigilia» dell'oscuramento di Milano. (3 febbraio 1955).

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Pubblicazioni...

Esci

IT

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Nuova Zelanda Sunday Star Times 3 ago 2014 E28 - E29 ENTERTAINMENT ART

E28 | SUNDAY STAR★TIMES ■ AUGUST 3, 2014

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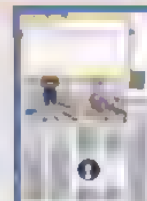
ART

The guy who paints f

RAZING BEAU

Visione di tutti  
gli immagini in  
miniatura

Pagine

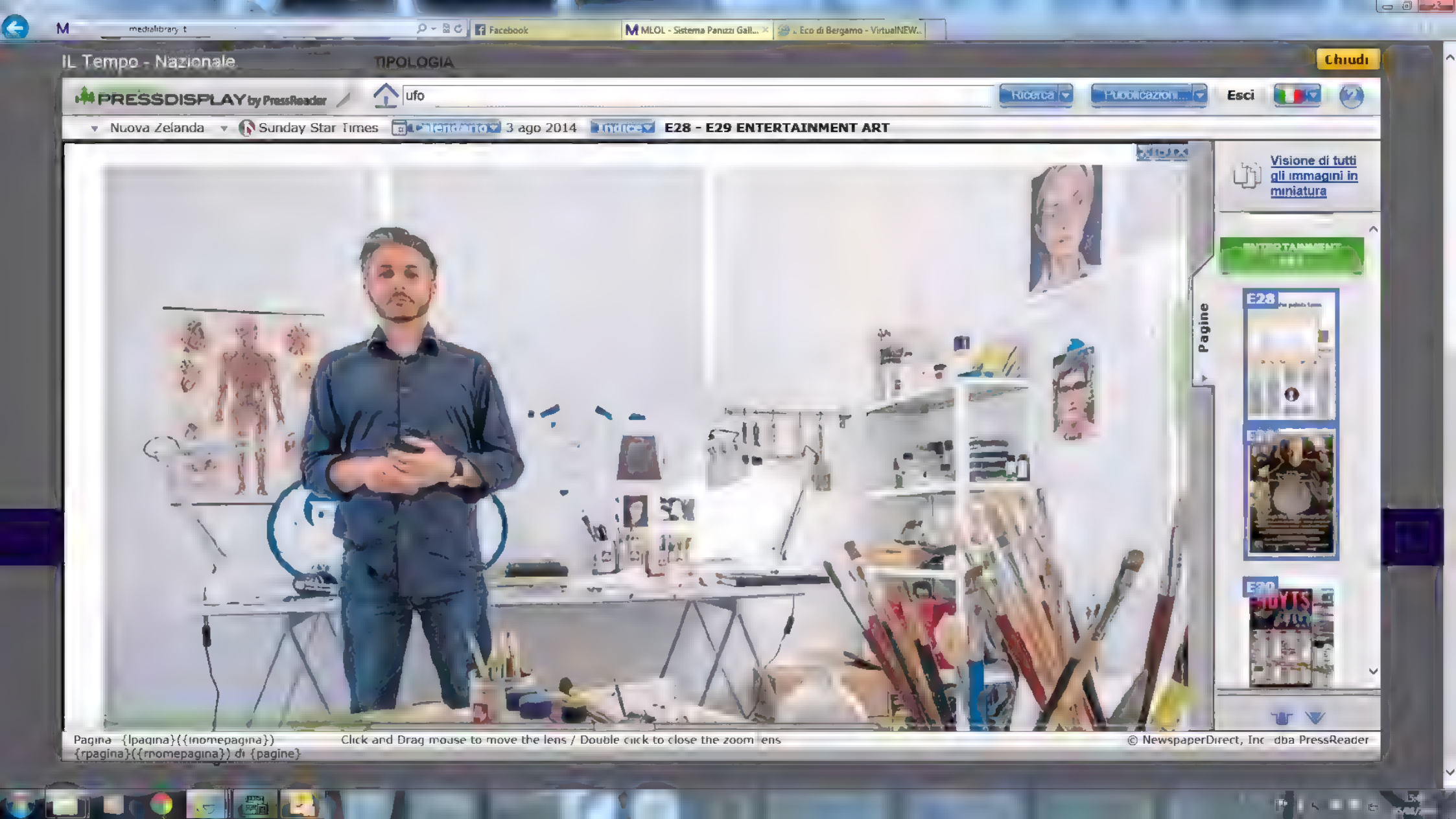


Pagina: {lpagina}({lnomepagina}) -  
{rpagina}({rnomepagina}) di {pagina}

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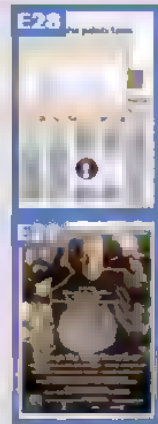


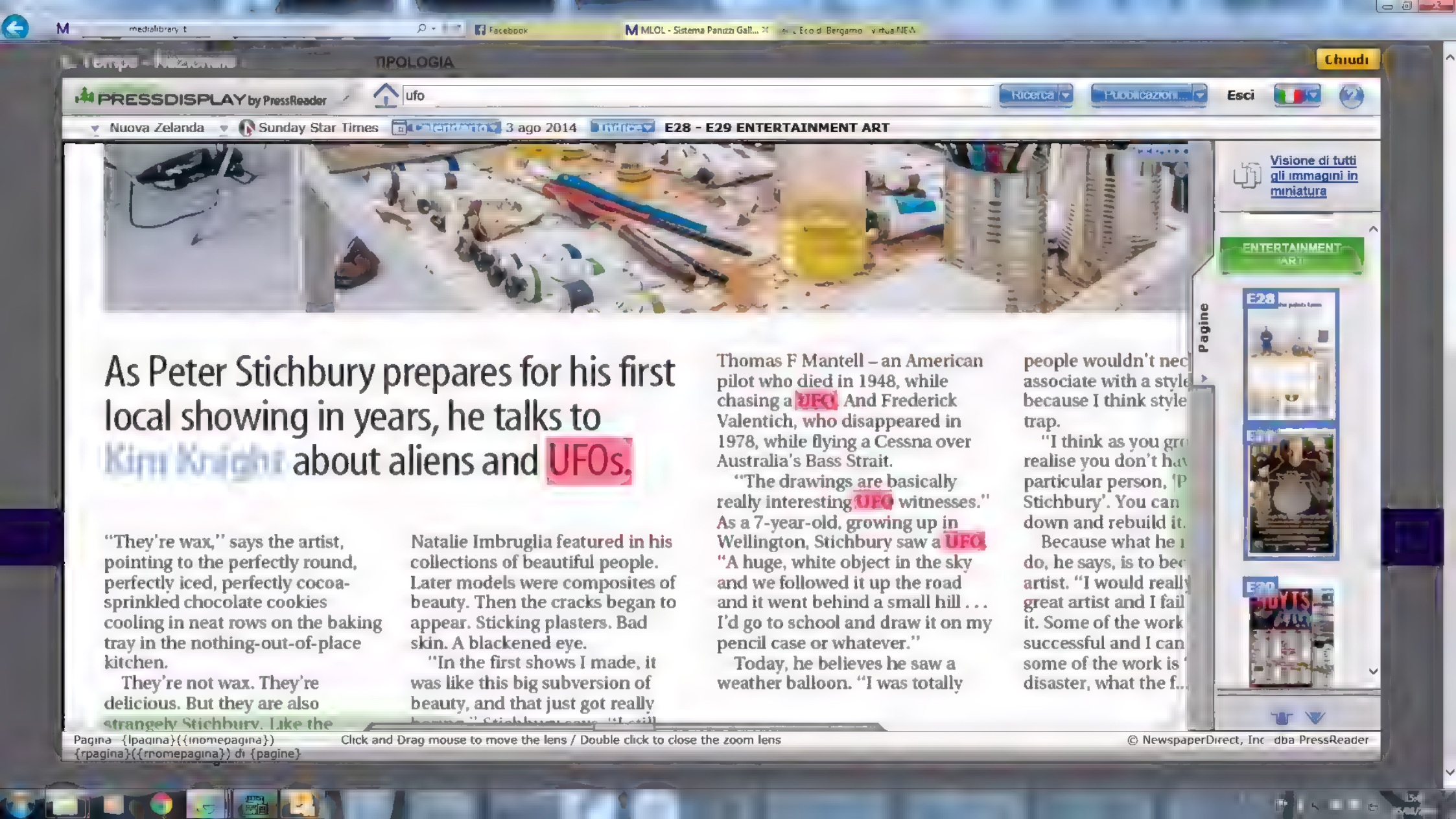


Visione di tutti  
gli immagini in  
miniatura

ENTERTAINMENT  
ART

Pagine





## As Peter Stichbury prepares for his first local showing in years, he talks to Kiri Knight about aliens and UFOs.

"They're wax," says the artist, pointing to the perfectly round, perfectly iced, perfectly cocoa-sprinkled chocolate cookies cooling in neat rows on the baking tray in the nothing-out-of-place kitchen.

They're not wax. They're delicious. But they are also strangely Stichbury. Like the

Natalie Imbruglia featured in his collections of beautiful people. Later models were composites of beauty. Then the cracks began to appear. Sticking plasters. Bad skin. A blackened eye.

"In the first shows I made, it was like this big subversion of beauty, and that just got really

Thomas F Mantell – an American pilot who died in 1948, while chasing a UFO. And Frederick Valentich, who disappeared in 1978, while flying a Cessna over Australia's Bass Strait.

"The drawings are basically really interesting UFO witnesses." As a 7-year-old, growing up in Wellington, Stichbury saw a UFO. "A huge, white object in the sky and we followed it up the road and it went behind a small hill... I'd go to school and draw it on my pencil case or whatever."

Today, he believes he saw a weather balloon. "I was totally

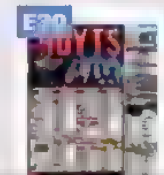
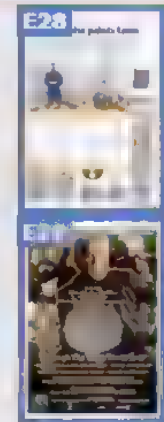
people wouldn't need to associate with a style because I think style is a trap.

"I think as you grow up, you realise you don't have a particular person, 'Peter Stichbury'. You can't live down and rebuild it."

Because what he does, he says, is to be an artist. "I would really like to be a great artist and I fail at it. Some of the work is successful and I can't do some of the work is a disaster, what the f..

Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura

ENTERTAINMENT ART





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They're not wax. They're delicious. But they are also strangely Stichbury. Like the Siamese cat that sits like an installation in the gap above the hot water cylinder, the living room walls with only a large Jae Hoon Lee photograph and a set of animal horns, there's a particular aesthetic at work in this home.

Peter Stichbury made his name painting perfect. "Faces of nearly oppressive flawlessness," recorded Justin Paton, arts writer extraordinaire. "They all have hair like sable, clear veinless eyes and skin that doesn't sweat."

Back in 1997, as an Elam School of Fine arts graduate, Stichbury

Natalie Imbruglia featured in his collections of beautiful people. Later models were composites of beauty. Then the cracks began to appear. Sticking plasters. Bad skin. A blackened eye.

"In the first shows I made, it was like this big subversion of beauty, and that just got really boring," Stichbury says. "I still love the anatomy and way beautiful people look, but now I use them like a director would use them in a Hollywood film."

A fortnight ago, in that elegantly spare Auckland living room, Stichbury revealed his newest obsession: **UFOs** and the associated folklore.

He's preparing for two solo shows. *Sources and Methods* opens at Auckland's Michael Lett Gallery on Thursday. Stichbury says it's "hopefully" the drawn skeleton of the painted version that will show at New York gallery

"The drawings are basically really interesting **UFO** witnesses." As a 7-year-old, growing up in Wellington, Stichbury saw a **UFO**. "A huge, white object in the sky and we followed it up the road and it went behind a small hill... I'd go to school and draw it on my pencil case or whatever."

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Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura

Pagine



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Back in 1997, as an Elam School of Fine arts graduate, Stichbury won the James Wallace Art Award. His first dealer show reportedly sold out on opening night. He is represented in New York and last week, as he prepared for his first local solo exhibition in seven years, one art auction house was listing his work at \$30,000-\$40,000.

Actor Anna Paquin and singer

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"I've been making them concurrently. I want to participate with what's going on here. There are so many amazing New Zealand artists, and I want to be in that mix."

He's still, mostly, focusing on the portrait. New subjects include



disappointed!"

Stichbury knows he is "the guy who paints faces" but says, with each series of work, there is a slight shift. This time, he's also replicating American government agency conspiracy-themed logos.

"I thought, this year, it would be a good idea to really start to move things in some sideways directions and do things that

In 2001, Stichbury fell victim to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

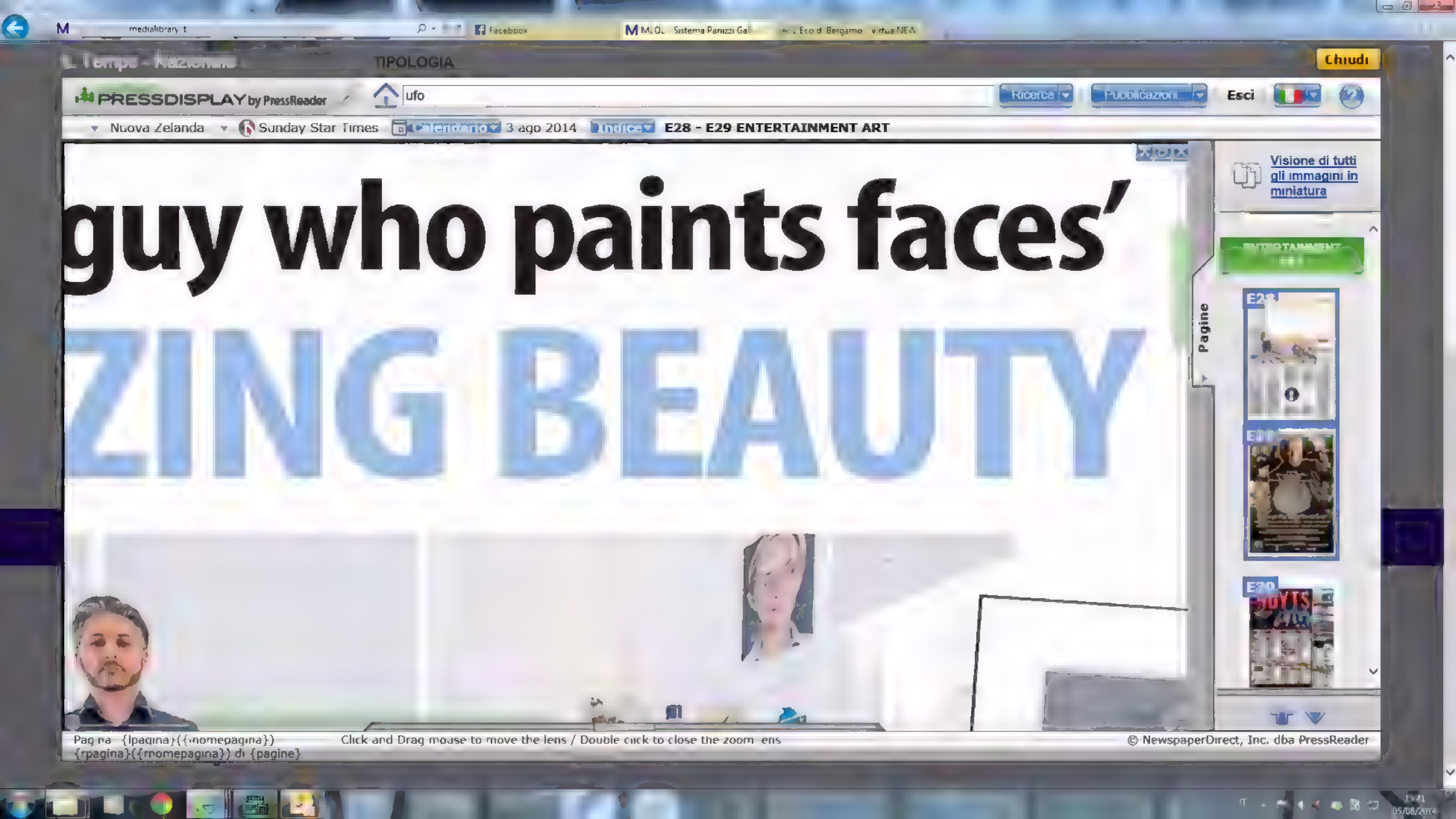
Today, he says, "I've got it and all that stuff... it's a way to weather it, to adapt and do the best with what you've got." Wonder if the spare parts of his home life is a reaction to this disorder that shoots down the plot

Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura

Pagine







# guy who paints faces'

## ZING BEAUTY



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gli immagini in  
miniatura

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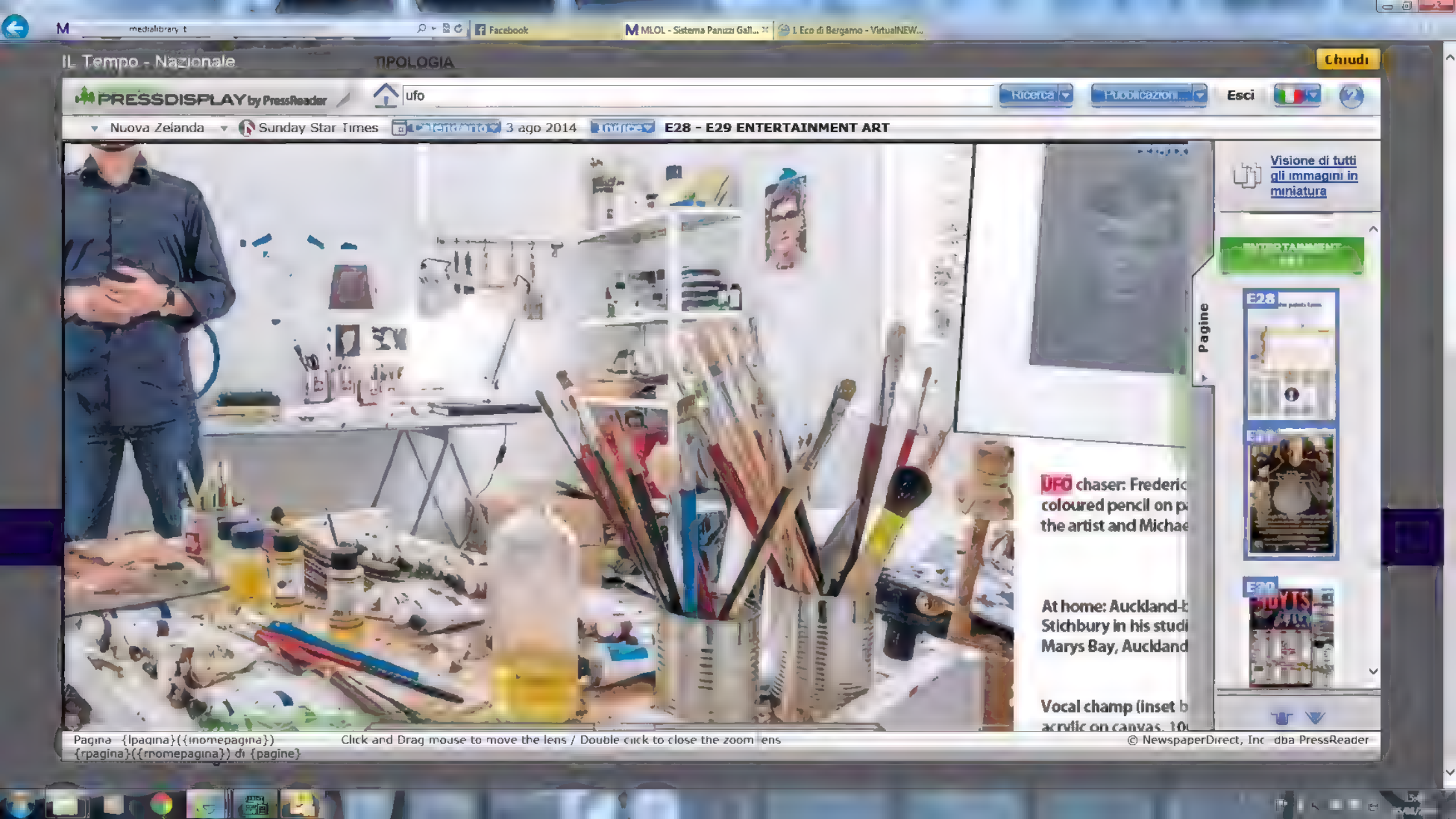
Pagine



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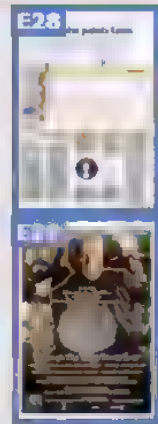
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ENTERTAINMENT

Pagine



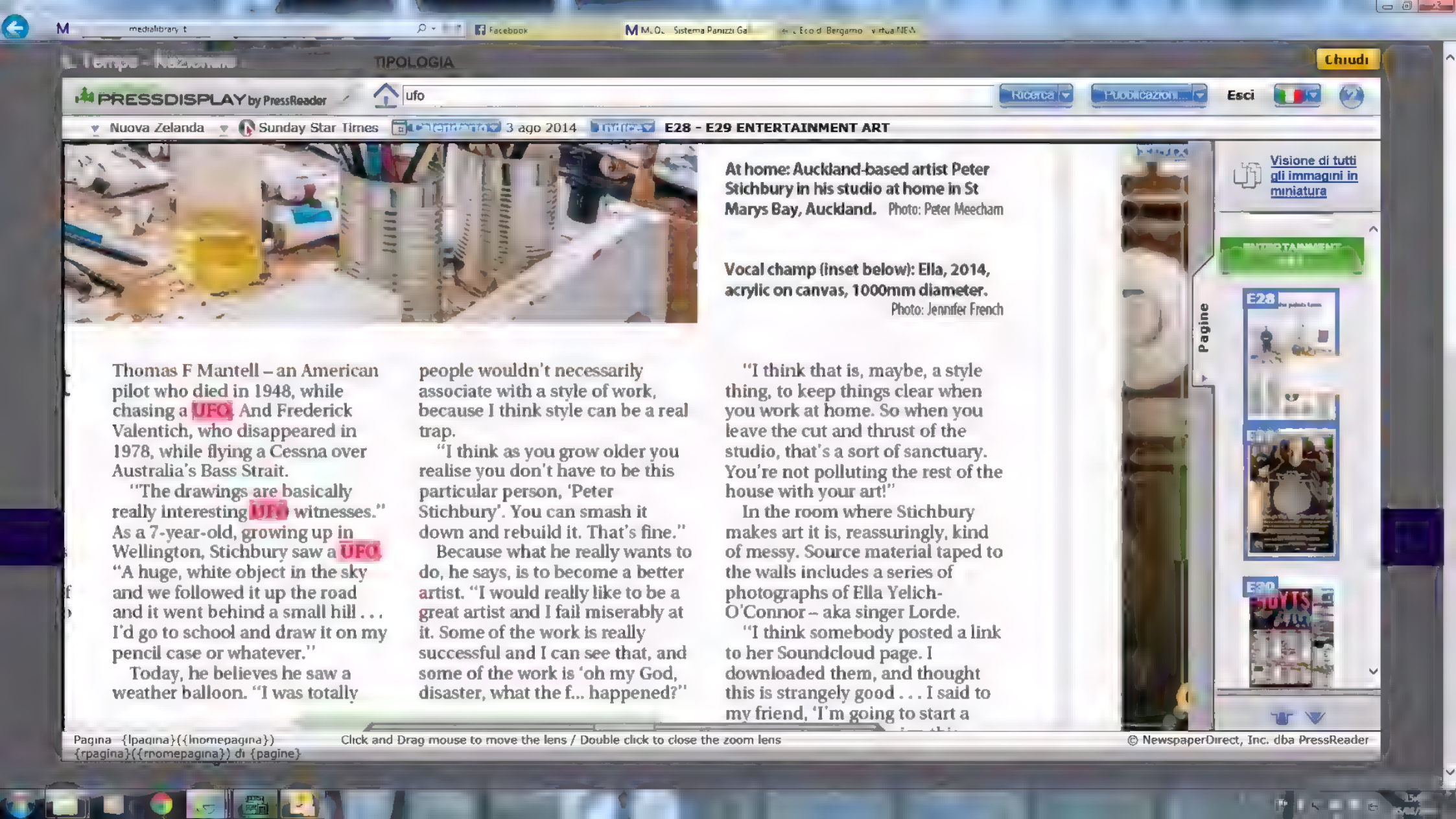
**UFO** chaser: Frederic coloured pencil on paper the artist and Michael

At home: Auckland Stichbury in his studio Marys Bay, Auckland

Vocal champ (inset b acrylic on canvas. 10







At home: Auckland-based artist Peter Stichbury in his studio at home in St Marys Bay, Auckland. Photo: Peter Meecham

Vocal champ (inset below): Ella, 2014, acrylic on canvas, 1000mm diameter. Photo: Jennifer French

Thomas F Mantell – an American pilot who died in 1948, while chasing a **UFO**. And Frederick Valentich, who disappeared in 1978, while flying a Cessna over Australia's Bass Strait.

"The drawings are basically really interesting **UFO** witnesses." As a 7-year-old, growing up in Wellington, Stichbury saw a **UFO**. "A huge, white object in the sky and we followed it up the road and it went behind a small hill... I'd go to school and draw it on my pencil case or whatever."

Today, he believes he saw a weather balloon. "I was totally

people wouldn't necessarily associate with a style of work, because I think style can be a real trap.

"I think as you grow older you realise you don't have to be this particular person, 'Peter Stichbury'. You can smash it down and rebuild it. That's fine."

Because what he really wants to do, he says, is to become a better artist. "I would really like to be a great artist and I fail miserably at it. Some of the work is really successful and I can see that, and some of the work is 'oh my God, disaster, what the f... happened?'"

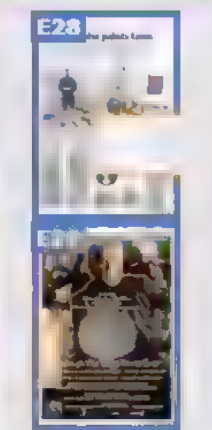
"I think that is, maybe, a style thing, to keep things clear when you work at home. So when you leave the cut and thrust of the studio, that's a sort of sanctuary. You're not polluting the rest of the house with your art!"

In the room where Stichbury makes art it is, reassuringly, kind of messy. Source material taped to the walls includes a series of photographs of Ella Yelich-O'Connor – aka singer Lorde.

"I think somebody posted a link to her Soundcloud page. I downloaded them, and thought this is strangely good... I said to my friend, 'I'm going to start a

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ENTERTAINMENT





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Ricerca

Pubblicazioni...

Esci

Nuova Zelanda

Sunday Star Times

Calendario

3 ago 2014

Indice

E28 - E29 ENTERTAINMENT ART


Australia's Bass Strait.

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"I think somebody posted a link to her Soundcloud page. I downloaded them, and thought this is strangely good . . . I said to my friend, 'I'm going to start a record label so I can sign this girl'."

Someone had, of course, beat him to it. So he asked if she'd pose for a painting. "I said to her when we took the photos, I'm going to do one of you, and [another] one is going to be – and I haven't made it yet – of an alien abductee, which is more in line with the next lot of shows."

Stichbury says he's an artist, partly because he enjoys "making things for people".

"Once the audience views it, hopefully some people can

Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura

ENTERTAINMENT ART

E28

RAZING BEAUTY

E29

E30

MYTS

disappointed!"

Pagina: {lpagina}({lnomepagina}) - {rpagina}({rnomepagina}) di {pagine}

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Pubblicazioni...

Esci

Nuova Zelanda

Sunday Star Times

Calendario

3 ago 2014

Indice

E28 - E29 ENTERTAINMENT ART

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Stichbury says he's an artist, partly because he enjoys "making things for people".

"Once the audience views it, hopefully some people can connect with it, enjoy it, comprehend it. You're offering something to society that isn't just another piece of hot trash. Another burger; another shitty car. Something that hopefully has some meaning to people."

Sources and Methods, Michael Lett Gallery, August 7-September 6.

disappointed!"

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"I thought, this year, it would be a good idea to really start to move things in some sideways directions and do things that

In 2001, Stichbury fell victim to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Today, he says, "I pace myself, and all that stuff . . . you just find a way to weather it, cope with it, adapt and do the best you can with what you've got left over." Wonder if the spare, clean space of his home life is a necessary reaction to this disease and he shoots down the pop psychology.

Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura

ENTERTAINMENT ART

E28

RAZING BEAUTY

E29

Stitchbury

E30

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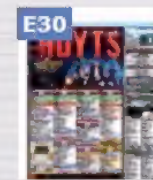
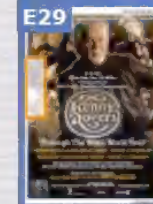


**UFO** chaser: Frederick Valentich, 2014, coloured pencil on paper, courtesy of the artist and Michael Lett, Auckland.  
Photo: Alex North

[Visione di tutti gli immagini in miniatura](#)

ENTERTAINMENT ART

Pagine







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Ricerca

Pubblicazioni...

Esci



Nuova Zelanda

Sunday Star Times

Calendario

3 ago 2014

Indice

E2 - E3 INDEX

17 Hot Deals, Ask the Expert  
22 Puzzles

## Culture

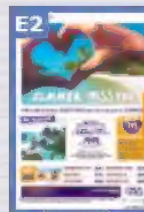
### FEATURES

- 25-26 **FREDDIE'S PHANTOM:** The man who keeps Freddie Mercury alive.
- 27 **SHIHAD GETS PHYSICAL:** At 42, Jon Toogood's health is better than ever.
- 28 **RAZING BEAUTY:** Peter Stichbury talks aliens and **UFOs**.

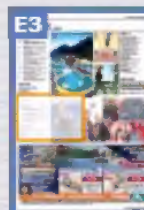
### REGULARS



Visione di tutti  
gli immagini in  
miniatura



INDEX



TRAVEL NEW  
ZEALAND

E4



Pagina: {lpagina}({lnomepagina}) -  
{rpagina}({rnomepagina}) di {pagine}

Click and Drag mouse to move the lens / Double click to close the zoom lens

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